

THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY 6

18 NOVEMBER 1995

Peace dawns for Balkans

Deal that will end carnage is imminent

Europe Editor

Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia's Muslim-led government are expected to announce a historic eace settlement for former Yugoslavia this weekend, ending Europe's bloodiest conflict in 50 years.

Senior US officials attending eace talks in Dayton, Ohio, said the three Balkan delegations had narrowed their differences on most issues, and were within reach of a final agreement. The hope is to be able to announce initials on an agreement Monday or Sunday night," said a senior US official travelling to Dayton with the US Defense Secretary, William Perry.

A settlement, if concluded,

would end a war in which as many as 200,000 people have been slaughtered and up to 3 million displaced from their homes. The conflict, which erupted in June 1991, has produced such savagery against civilians that the United Nations felt obliged to establish a war crimes tribunal that has so far indicted 52 people, including several Serb and Croat leaders.

The Ohio talks were placed under a news blackout from the start on 1 November as a way of concentrating the minds of delegates on securing an agreement. But signs mounted rapidly yesterday that a deal was in the offing, as Mr Perry flew to Dayton, swiftly followed by the US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, who cut short a visit to Japan. Anthony Lake, President Bill

Clinton's national security adviser, was reporting to the President last night after secretly Payton on Thursday. A US official said the trips of Mr Lake, Mr Perry and Mr Christopher could be taken as evidence that a settlement was close.

The breakthrough was con-firmed by Croatia's President, Franjo Tudjman, who said an accord that would normalise relations between Serbia and Croatia was ready for signing. But in a sign that the Ohio talks had not resolved every outstanding dispute, he said the delegations had agreed to postpone discussion of a possible exchange of territory between Croats and Serbs near

Dubrovnik in southern Croatia. In Paris, where a formal peace ceremony is likely to be held early next month, a French Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "The negotiations are advancing. The positions of the parties are growing closer." Noting pointedly that France had never before expressed optimism about the peace negotiations, he added:

We are optimistic. The precise terms of the

es the Children of War Appeal.

a special plea to help the child

victims of the war ravaged

countries of the former Yu-

Peace may be at last be close

for the Balkans but the damage

of four years of conflict remains.

None of the region's 24 million

and its 6 million children face

a lifetime suffering from the

struggle will be psychological — coping with the loss of parents, siblings and family. But there is a need for medical aid, food,

shelter. There are also thou-

sands struggling to be reunit-

Livelihoods have evaporated

and homes razed. In 1995 alone

500.000 were made homeless

UNICEF describes the regis-tration of displaced children in

Bosnia as being in disarray.

Some have spent up to four

years living in camps or with bost families and relatives scat-

tered from Austria to Australia.

goslavia have suffered terribly.

"The children of former-Yu-

For these children the main

ale have been left untouched

goslavia this Christmas.

CHILDREN OF WAR

The six million who

need your help

The Independent today launch- The scars will take a long time

to heal," says Lord Owen, the

frightening. They are the gen-eration who will rebuild Bosnia

and Herzegovina, Serbia and

Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia and Slovenia. The future

is theirs - but it is blighted by

poor natrition, lack of housing

racial hatred and the loss of

The independent is asking its

ing to help them. Four agencies have been chosen: the Interna-

tional Red Cross, Save The

Children, War Child and Child

Advocacy International, All

ter the last bullet has been fired.

mas we will be detailing the pro-

jects we would like you to

support, starting on Monday

ing undertaken by the Red Cross in Sarajevo, supplying

46,000 schoolchildren aged sev-

en to 14 with hot soup and a

sandwich each day this winter.

Children of War, page 13

with an account of the work be

Over the weeks up to Christ-

years of education

For children the situation is

former EU mediator.

their general outline is clear. a corridor linking their lands in Bosnia will remain a united state northern and eastern Bosnia, and the Muslim-led government will keep the eastern en-clave of Gorazde. One be divided into a Muslim-Croat federation with 51 per cent of, unresolved problem remains the Bosnian Serb demand for the land and a Bosnian Serb. entity with 49 per cent. The central Bosnian government in Sarajevo will have relatively access to the Adriatic Sca. Sarajevo, under siege from

April 1992 by Serb forces who limited powers, but will be Bosnia's official face to the wanted to partition the city outside world. The aim is to preinto Serb and Muslim sectors, will be remited with full freevent areas under Bosnian Serb dom of movement for all citiand Bosnian Croat control from seeking to unite with Serbia and zens. Refugees from all parts of Croatia, a step that would rethe capital will be able to return to their homes, and it is exduce Bosnia to a vulnerable Muslim-inhabited core, pected that some districts will The Serbs will be permitted

preserve a Serb majority.
One long standing obstacle to a settlement was the insistence of Serbia's President, Slobodan Milosevic, that UN sanctions against his country should be fully lifted. A US official, without giving details, said this dif-ficulty had been overcome. Earlier, the State Depart-

ment spokesman, Nicholas Burns, had said Serbia would not be allowed to renew its membership of key international institutions, such as the UN, the International Monetary Fund and the Organisation for Secu-city and Co-operation in Europe, unless it co-operated with the UN war crimes tribunal. The tribunal wants a number of Bosnian Serb and Croatian Serb leaders handed over for trial, including Radovan Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, accused of massacring up to 6,000 Mus-lins in Srebrenica last July, but it is unlikely they could be turned in without Mr Milosevic's co-op-

eration. The settlement, if agreed in its entirety, will represent a significant achievement, but could prove vulnerable to pressures in coming years. In particular, the vast population transfers induced by the war mean that the Muslim-Croat zone in Bosnia is likely to be drawn into Croatia's orbit and the Serb zone into Serbia's orbit. The settlement seeks to prevent Bosnia's partition, but the mixed-nationality communities that were Bosnia's strength

may now have gone forever.

Carnage set to end, page 13

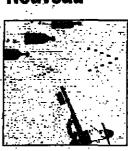
other people's rubbish

MAGAZINE

The magic in

Marco Pierre White's café of love

Bye bye **Beaujolais** Nouveau



Author makes history with serial thriller

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

Stephen King, the best-selling horror author, has clinched a unique publishing deal that will result in his next novel being released in in six monthly instal-

The novel will have the overall title of The Green Mile and will be published by Penguin, beginning in March next year. Each instalment will be a massmarket paperback of 96 pages, priced at £1.99.

To add to the novelty - and the publicity - King says he is writing the book as a serial novel, so that readers will begin reading it before he has finished writing it. The first two parts are

tims of war: Refugee children whose future is blighted

The first instalment . The Two Dead Girls, will be published in March, with the rest following at monthly intervals. The novel is set in America's Deep South in the 1930s and focuses on a man condemned to the electric chair.

thought to be complete. The idea was popularised in the nincteenth century when author the nincteenth century when author the But the British company round-

self-contained books.

'lt's very exciting for us. Everybody is enormously energised by this. We will publish 2 million copies of the first in-stalment." Peter Mayer, chief executive of the Penguin Group, said from New York yesterday. Some observers said King's

decision to sell the world rights to the project to Penguin rather than his usual UK publisher.

thors such as Dickens and Dos-toevsky published in serial form but in magazines rather than king novels next year, two in the series are howling for your blood." a million readers are howling for your blood." hardback and one in paperback. We would have felt it was a bit much to take on a further one,"

Photograph: Rex Features

Hodder's chief executive. Either way, Hodder had little choice. King is understood to have personally approached Mr Mayer with the idea of a serial novel because he was so impressed with Penguin's 60p mini-books. Penguin publishes King in the US and has a big

said Tim Hely Hutchinson,

Commonwealth operation. The author says in the foreword to his first instalment that he was drawn to the project because he wanted to try some-thing different. "I like the high-wire aspect of it. Fall down on the job, fail to carry it through, and all at once about

guin stands to gain. Although King is one of the world's best-selling writers, averaging UK sales of more than half a million a paperback, sales of the instalments are unlikely to be consistent and the author's advance will have been high. The company stands, however, to make £4 more for the entire novel than the usual £5.99 price for a King paperback.

Trade reaction was interested but sceptical. "I think this is something King wants to do for fun, but I think people would rather have the whole book at once," one senior publisher said. Another was more ontimistic: "A lot of extra people will probably buy the books. I think it's possibly a good idea."



King: Spinning out suspense with horror in installments

IN BRIEF Fear in the cathedral

Pound at all-time low The pound declined to an alltime low against the German mark and other currencies yesterday, thanks to expectations of a generous Budget. Page 22

NHS trationing

Rationing is "sweeping the NHS". Labour's health spokes-woman said as a survey showed many health authorities limiting. barring or planning to reduce a range of services.



Dean, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson, cleared of adultery in July, to resign because of "fear" among cathedral staff Page 3 King mistrial

The Bishop of Lincoln wants the

The trial of the boxing promoter Don King on charges of defrauding Lloyd's of London ended in near-farce after judge declared a mistrial. Page 15

Storm stops play A storm halted England's first Test against South Africa when they were 381 for 9. Page 32

Today's weather Dry and sunny, but cold with frost early and late. Page 2

Stressed MPs too tired for sex sions and the addition of morn-

JOHN RENTOUL Political Correspondent

Good news for John Major's war on "sleaze" - MPs have admitted they are too tired to have sex. But, according to a new study, they have the consolation of eating, drinking and smoking too much

"Levels of emotional stress had increased considerably among MPs since 1992, according to a study by occupational psychologist Ashley Weinberg, and their satisfaction with their work has decreased. Of a sample of 93 MPs, nearly half (44 per cent) reported

stress symptoms of tiredness

and exhaustion, over a third (38 per cent) reported a decline in interest in sex and 37 per cent reported a lack of sleep.

Nearly all MPs said they

spent too little time with their partners and children, while most found it "difficult to cut off from work when at home, with stress from the workplace contributing to tension at home". Mr Weinberg, of Manchester

minster, these involved the

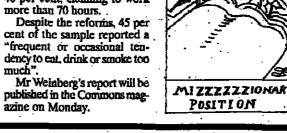
virtual abolition of all-night ses-

46 per cent, claiming to work more than 70 hours. University, studied the impact Despite the reforms, 45 per of the "Jopling reforms" of the cent of the sample reported a Commons timetable, which "frequent or occasional tenwere introduced in January of dency to eat, drink or smoke too this year. Designed to "humanise" working practices at West-

ing sessions on Wednesdays.

Four-fifths of Mr Weinberg's sample said the reforms had made things easier, while onefifth had noticed no difference or said things had got worse. Nearly all MPs, 95 per cent, said they worked more than 55 hours a week, with nearly half,

MIZZZZZZIONARY POSITION



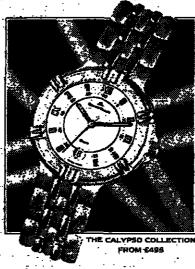
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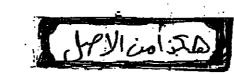
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IN BRIEF

West jurors set to be sent out

The jury which will decide whether or not Rosemary West is guilty of 10 murders will be sent out to consider as verdicts

on Monday Mr Justice Mantel continued

COLIN BROWN and

John Major is expected to write today to John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, calling for an early summit on British proposals for ending the stalemate over the Northern Ireland peace process.
As more than 80 IRA and

loyalist prisoners were released vesterday in a confidence-building measure. Mr Major warned that Sinn Fein had still "a long way to go" before it could enter talks. He called on Sinn Fein leaders to make concessions over their refusal to countenance the decommissioning of IRA weapons before being ad-

mitted to all-party talks. He said: "Sinn Fein have been taking a very hard line in negotiations for some time. What Sinn Fein is saying about seeking peace I very much hope is true. But Sinn Fein have a long way still to go. I hope we can still get Sinn Fein into talks with the other parties but Sinn Fein have to accept they too have to make concessions. It isn't possible to enter into negotiations with a private army at their back. That is not the way to get into democratic politics."

He is to ask Mr Bruton for

"an early summit date - I hope it will not be too long". But the ssue of IRA weapons remains the stumbling block which the two sides have to overcome. The Irish government is keen to proceed to all-party talks without it being used as a pre-condition that the IRA should begin disarming first before sitting down at the table.

Mr Major is adamant that some progress will have to be made before the Ulster Unionists will accept Sinn Fein in the talks. Mr Bruton and Mr Major will discuss putting off that crucial question until February, when the ground has been laid for the all-party talks to begin. The Prime Minister will pro-

pose in his letter the twin-track strategy which has Dublin's broad support – an international commission chaired by George Mitchell. President Clinton's economic adviser, to deal with the arms question; and simultaneous bilateral talks with each of the parties leading up to allparty talks. The process will be launched before the end of the year. Mr Major will include the idea by David Trimble. the Ulster Unionist leader, for early elections to an elected assem-



Walk to freedom: Four loyalist prisoners leaving the Maze prison, near Belfast, after their early release yesterday

among individual families of ident, continued to warn that prisoners who were reunited as they were released yesterday, there was no sign that the move would infuse any new momentum into the peace process.

While extreme loyalist groups are displaying no real signs of any internal strains. Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein's presthe process was in danger. He said yesterday: "If we continue not to tackle the causes of conflict the conflict will re-occur. I say that with great regret and sadness and with a great sense of fear. I think it is patently clear that the British succeeded in

making the peace process a

high-wire act. That high-wire is now stretched like elastic."

The prison releases follow the passage through Parliament of a regulation increasing remission for some prisoners from one-third to a half. The Government's position is that there can be no amnesty, but that ble on condition the ceasefires hold. Sir Patrick Mayhew, Secnetary of State for Northern Ire-

those released to prison. Republicans have characterised the remission measure as belated, grudging and an inadequate response to the IRA cessation of August 1994. The

land, retains the power to recall

Irish Republic unconditionally released several dozen republican prisoners within months of the ceasefire. Those freed yesterday were almost equally divided between republicans and six more prisoners are due to be

Photograph: Kelvin Boyes

loyalists: 53 had been held in the Maze prison near Belfast, while

for Northampton North, on the island of Zante in Greece in October last year. **Oueen Mother walks**

ham Palace said she was having another quiet day of rest and recuperation" with no visitors.

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BACK ISSUES Back issues of the Independent are available form

Home rule: Minister reveals on television how he considered devolution but rejected it

Forsyth admits he had plans for Scots' parliament

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES and JOHN ARLIDGE

Michael Forsyth, Secretary of State for Scotland, dramatically revealed last night that he had considered setting up a Scottish parliament - but had rejected the idea for practical reasons.

Mr Forsyth made the discloprogramme, to be broadcast tomorrow, but said the creation of such a body could not solve the so-called "West Lothian" question – why Scottish MPs should have a vote on English affairs but not the other way around.

John Major's alternative plans for Scottish democratic reform will be no substitute for a Scottish parliament, opposition pa<u>rti</u>es insisted yesterday. There were growing indica-

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Nat. light Ron Tate ties: ture Brit mai-ing I Gre Hal Hea Oxfe Leer ing) "We 5pm

tions yesterday, however, that the Scottish Grand Committee could be given new powers to debate, amend and vote on contentious Scottish legislation and to conduct the committee stage of Bills, despite the heavy Labour domination of the body.

At present, the committee, comprising all Scotland's 72 пу попп от the border and in Westminster to debate legislation before they go into committee stage.

Mr Forsyth said yesterday: " cannot reveal the details but we are talking about here is ensuring we have more scrutiny of Scottish affairs and that ministers are held to account."

There are also expectations that the Government plans to devolve more power to local authorities and school boards.

George Robertson, Labour spokesman on Scottish affairs, criticised a "panicky but wellpackaged PR stunt." He said: "If I thought it was going to give real decisive power to Scottish MPs over Scottish legislation, then I think we would take it seriously. But it seems to be little more than a cosmetic operation."

on Wednesday week, St Anlaunch of the Labour and Liberal Democrat-supported Scottish Constitutional Convention blueprint for a Scottish parliament. Jim Wallace, leader of the

Scottish Liberal Democrats, said: "Further Tory tinkering is no substitute for a Scottish parliament ... The Tories are responding to the agenda set by the Constitutional Convention.

The difference is that our plan for a Scottish parliament has the real interests of the people of Scotland at their heart. - But while the Government

would retain the right of the House of Commons to have the final say on Scottish Bills at Third Reading, it would be under strong political pressure parliament to unravel amendments. It often opts not to reverse House amendments in the Commons. The pressure to adopt a similar approach to Scottish affairs would be greater, because the Grand Committee is composed

of elected representatives. The Scottish National Party. which backs an independent Scotland, moved swiftly to exploit aspects of the Prime Min-



Michael Forsyth: Focus on scrutiny of Scottish affairs

Independent. "Nobody should be in any doubt that Scotland could be a separate nation," Mr Major had said.

Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, said the Tories' limited proposals would only serve to underline the need for a fully independent Scotland, "I think the Prime Minister, by trying to concede more ... is actually underlining the democratic deficit in Scotland," he said.

Dancer's jinx claims its fourth victim

MARIANNE MACDONALD

The curse of Darcy Bussell descended again yesterday as the Roval Ballet's youngest female star lost another male partner, Zoltan Solymosi, after he fell

out with the company director. The handsome Hungarian dancer, who came to Covent Garden as a principal in January 1992, departed earlier this week, it was announced yesterday. A press statement blamed "irreconcilable differences with the company's direcior, Anthony Do

senior artistic staff". The dancer's departure will be a grievous loss to the talented Ms Bussell, 27, who seems increasingly doomed in her search for a stable male partner.

The rot started with Jonathan Cope, who accompanied her first leading role in 1989, but left

ballet eight months later to go into business. Next came Robert Hill, a tall, romantic American whose career ended

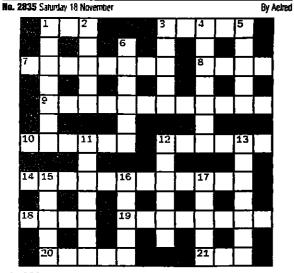
with a serious injury. Next came the much-heralded partnership between Bussell and Irek Mukhamedov, the former-Bolshoi star - but they turned out to be mismatched.

Zoltan Solymosi, 27, was the latest hope. He was one of that rare band of male dancers tall enough to partner Bussell, who is 5ft 7in, and strong enough to complement her powerful style. By his own admission Solymos is "a passionate, very temperamental and very angry" dancer, and it was almost certainly this

which led to his downfall. The pair were scheduled to dance together in Apollo next Thursday and Saturday. Jonathan Cope, who returned to ballet in 1992, will stand in.

Bishop pur on Dean

concise crossword



ACROSS

Thing for writing (3) Join, unasked (3.2) Become smaller (8) Brings into open (4)

spawn (6-6) 18 Man. say (4) 19 Came before (8) Nosev (5).

21 Hard fruit (3)

DOWN

Spouse's offspring (4-8) Laughing animals (6)

12 Athlete (6) 14 It helps fish to go up to

In religious way (7) Saltpetre (5) Playing all together (5)

Dangled (anag)(7) Tend (5) Balls (6) Book of Bible (7) Lector (6)

Serious (7) 15 Crime (5) 16 Himalayan country (5) 17 Remove water from (5)

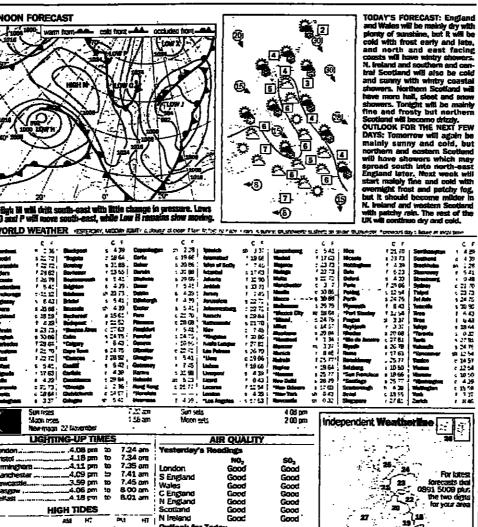
Solution to yesterday's Coucise Crossword

Across; Scize. 4 Cape (Seascape), S Oculist, 9 Drama, 10 Keen, 11 Ab ini-tio, 12 Ratioemation. 15 Backache, 17 Ugli, 31 Ennu, 21 Extreme, 22 Plea, 23 Traps. Down: 1 Student, 2 Ibis, 3 Establishment, 4 Cadenza, 5 Plant, 6 Monk, 7 Lagoon, 12 Robber, 13 Ocarina, 14 Ingress, 18 Item, 19 Stoa

Notes

weather

NOON FORECAST



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ig up the evidence for second day vesterday and will finish on Monday. He told the jury they must read the train scripts of police interviews will Mrs West last year when con sidering their verdicts, and an vised them to bring an overnight bag on Monday. Mrs West, 41 denies murdering 10 Januales whose remains were found in Gloucester. Her husband Frederick, charged with 12 mm. ders, was found hanger in his prison cell last new year Abducted man found A man who was beaten and abducted from his home in Stra bane. Co Tyrone, by an armed gang on Wednesday was found by Royal Ulster Constabulary officers wandering dit a road near Castlederg John Hegarty, 19, said he was roped to a tree and questioned for 24 hours.

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Campaign 'wrong' The Irish Supreme Court reversed a High Court judgment. and said the government was wrong to spend IR£500,000 promoting a "yes" vote in favour of divorce in next week's referendum. Spending public funds in this way was "an interference in the democratic process". The challenge was brought by Green Party MEP Patricia McKenna

Drowning verdict A verdict of accidental death

was recorded by an inquest in Northampton on Catherine Marlow, 54, who drowned while wimming the morning after a night spent drinking wine with her husband, Tony, 55, Tory MP

The Queen Mother, 95, took her first steps yesterday after her hip replacement operation at King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers in London Bucking

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

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news

Dogs, drugs and scandal in a twilight world





Top dogs: Pumters study the form (above) as trainers walk the greyhounds around the track at Catford stadium in south-east London. Right: a bookmaker marks up the odds before the start of a race

JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

Scam at the track: Syndicate's doping of seven greyhounds throws a sport into turmoil

on the track, and small pieces sort to the use of "ringers" - sev-

The world of greyhound racing is in a flutter - someone has been doping the dogs.

After years of hard work by greyhound track owners to expunge the sport's image of shady dealings watched over by old men in flat caps, a new scandal has hit the dog-racing world.

It has emerged that, in an ambitious attempt to fix two races, seven greyhounds were drugged at Catford stadium in south-east London. One bookmaker who witnessed the race said: "I couldn't believe it when they came out of the trap - one dog practically fell over. It was obvious something fishy was up."

The last doping scandal was about five years ago in Canterbury, Kent, However, at Catford in 1983, two trainers, Alf Ellis and Arthur Boyce, were each fined £100 after five dogs were tested positive.

betting shops throughout Catford had a flurry of unusual and highly risky wagers. Several people placed bets on two races and named dogs in each to come first and second.

Suspicions were confirmed when the fancied dogs duly took the first two places at the 7.49pm and the 8.19pm at Catford last month. Urine samples were taken and found to be positive. The losing dogs had been fed with beta-blockers, which make the animals lethargic. However, members of the team that pulled off the scam were not able to collect their winning about £8.000 — because the bookmakers were told to withhold all payments until an inquiry was completed.

Now police have been brought in to investigate. Questions are also being asked about the track's wrine testing proto the most recent "sting" when all the dogs as drug free. It was ing Club - a variety of methods and some consortiums resort to that there are ways of dupli- step ahead of the detectives.

only after more extensive tests at Newmarket in Suffolk that the doping was identified. The dogs were probably drugged either at the trainers' kennels or shortly before the Catford

The management of the

The twilight world of grey-

hound racing has many attrac-tions for the casual punter.

Unfortunately, it has also been prey to scam and scandal, an al-

luring arena for those seek to

profit from bending the rules.

- especially on those which do

not operate under the rules of

the National Greyhound Rac-

At many of the smaller tracks

1930s and is one of London's security precautions. He said said: "The idea that the sport is largest, yesterday insisted the testing measures were adequate. Frank Melville, chief executive of the regulators, the National Greyhound Racing Club, added that although the

Despite improved checks and

testing, they can still go un-dected. Vaseline smeared in

the dog's eyes will slow it down

of chewing gum can be stuck in

from running at its usual pace.

Feeding the dog at the wrong

scams to fix races were "very, completely clean is laughable." very, rare". This sentiment was not

shared among the 600 or so bookmakers and punters who turned up on a bitterly cold evening at Catford stadium on there were a number of other Thursday. One bookmaker things going on and it's got a lot

speed-up drugs or hard nar-cotics to reduce the animal's

It has even been alleged in

the past that some trainers re-

eral dogs from the same litter

but which are of varying abili-ty. Although dogs need to be

registered to race with a tattoo

performance and balance.

maturely at Harringay dog track in north London and had just watched the greyhound she owns come second, agreed.

Ann Beal, who was born pre-

Working a sting with Vaseline and gum have been used to pull off a the use of travel sickness tablets, cating the tattoo. And, appar-

> keep it in the stragglers. But whatever the scam, the intention remains the same, to slow down the dog for a number of races in order to bring between the dog's toes to izri- which are similar in appearance down the odds for a future event tate the animal and stop it but which are of varying abili- There can be fines for a drastic There can be fines for a drastic improvement in a dog's performance, but there is always the possibility that the cheats are a

ently, encouraging the dog to masturbate before a race will

volved people don't mind how they get a result," she said. I have been coming her since I was a kid, but you get a

worse. When big money is in-

lot of riff-raff going now. They end up losing money, drinking too much, and having a fight."
One tipster said: "Drugging dogs is a bit over the top, most will slow them down with a big

bowl of water or a couple of steak and kidney pies before the All those questioned derided the most recent dopers as "amateurs" for trying to pull of a scam that was bound to cause

suspicion. Despite the criticisms the track management insists that the sport's image has changed and that this was a rare exam-

ple of cheating. Mike Raper, operations

is outdated. We have executive suites at some of our tracks now. You get businessmen going and a lot of young people - we've

Photographs: Peter Macdiarmid

started serving designer lagers as well. On Thursday, there was not much evidence of yuppies at the Catford dogs. There were three Japanese businessmen and one mobile telephone, but the vast bulk of the crowd was made up of middle aged men in jumpers. tough looking south Londoners out with their mates and girl-friends, and the famous old men

wet noses. The restaurant in the £3.50 side of the stadium was full, but most people opted for chips and burgers in the bar or opposite in the £2.50 sector.

with flat caps, long coats, and

Barry Mulligan claimed popularity within the sport was declining, "There's not much young blood coming into the game. When I was 18 or 19 we manager for the Greyhound used to go to the dogs five nights image of cloth caps and sawdust blokes like me." he said.

Bishop puts pressure on Dean to resign

ANDREW BROWN Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Bishop of Lincoln, the Rt an implacable enemy of Dean Rev Robert Hardy, suggested yesterday that the Dean, the Very Rev Brandon Jackson, should resign because of the "fear and the sense of intimidation" which many members of the cathedral staff had

experienced. The civil war in Lincoln Cathedral had been dormant siderable ill-feeling among the since July, when the Dean was staff, and the Dean has lost their since July, when the Dean was acquitted on charges of adultery after a three-day trial. But after the annual meetings of the paid staff of the cathedral, and of its governing body, the Greater Chapter, the Sub-Greater Chapter, the Sub-Dean, Canon Rex Davis, issued a statement which read: "I, for one, cannot any longer maintain an ethical spinelessness which colludes with his manifest contempt for the Bishop, for this cathedral, for his colleagues and for the staff which so loy-

this cathedral possible."

The Sub-Dean has long been Jackson's, even though the two men once spent a year in counselling sessions with other members of the chapter in an attempt to overcome their mu-

Bishop Hardy's personal assistant, Canon Raymond Rodger, said: "There is conconfidence. The matter has gone too far, and it is down to the Dean to take whatever steps are appropriate. That could well be his resignation."

Thatcher, rather than the Bishop. But Canon Rodger said that discussions would take place between all the parties in-

Bishop Hardy told BBC Ra-

ally and silently make the life of dio Lincoln: "It is a matter for the Dean to decide whether he wishes to resign. It is certainly very difficult to see a positive way forward.

"I have tried personally to make a bridge towards the Dean and I have failed. If there is a continuing failure I should feel it my responsibility to discuss the matter once more with the Archbishop and the Crown. That will be sooner rather than later."

After his acquittal in the summer, Dean Jackson bad suggested that the Bishop resign. Bishop Hardy refused then, and added yesterday: "I feel that I have got to stay with it and resolve the situation."

The struggle in Lincoln goes back at least as far as Dean Jackson's arrival in 1989, on a mission from God and the Prime Minister, as he conceived it, to break the power of the other four canons of the cathedral chapter, headed by Canon



Davis. He tried to force Canon Davis's resignation for exhibit-ing the cathedral's copy of the Magna Carta in Australia for six months on a fund-raising trip

which ended up losing £56,000. Eventually, the Bishop de-manded that all parties, including the Dean and Sub-Dean resign. All refused.

Carey threatens to be 'Birt of the Church'

ANDREW BROWN

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, could become the "John Birt of the Church of England" by trying to squeeze it into the mould of a managed, product-driven organisation, a leading sociologist of religion said yesterday.

Professor Richard Roberts, of the University of Lancaster, told a conference on "harmful religion" at King's College, London, that the Turnbull Commission's proposals for a radical reform of the Church of England's structure, which Dr Carey hopes the Synod will approve next year, would destroy the morale of the working clergy. He added that the proposwould produce a "harmful religion, grounded in depro-fessionalisation and the 'McDonaldisation' of religion, seeking ever greater uniformity, predictability, and control."
The Turnbull Commission

proposed that the Church of Church of England ...

England be run in future by a National Council headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and with a majority of its members appointed by him. The plan has already been denounced by traditionalists as producing a "Carey's curia" in which power would be centralised.

Prof Roberts said that the commission's report showed the bishops of the Church, as they have traditionally done, absorbing the values of the ruling elite of society and mistaking these for the Christian gospel. Since the élite of modern society is now managerial, he said, bishops would deliver the gospel as a product. "This is an evangelical take-over of the Church of England," Prof Roberts said. However, this ideology was

aiready outdated. "The Church of England today is at the stage that British Leyland was at in the 1970s. This sort of change didn't work for British Leyland and it won't work for the

"The subordinate staff in the organisation (the parish and sector clergy) may well rapidly adapt to satisfying the performance indicators regardless of real outcomes, as has already happened in higher education and the health service."

These criticisms will resonate with large sections of the Church, one close observer of the commission's work said yesterday. Dr Carey's plans to transform the Church into a modern and manageable organisation have already suffered one recent setback with the rejection of proposals to abolish the "freehold" which gives about two-thirds of the parish clergy jobs to which they ha<u>ve</u> a legal title.

The new General Synod will consider the Turnbull reforms when it meets at the end of this month. The legislation to implement the Commission's proposals will not now be drafted until after a debate on 29 No-

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BARRIE CLEMENT Labour Editor

Sporadic wildcat action continued at Ford yesterday bring-ing to more than 2,000 the number of workers involved in protest over a "final" pay offer which would give them a minimum of 9.25 per cent over two

Ford management acknowledged that the stoppages were unlawful, but decided they were "gestures" rather than a serious attempt to disrupt output. "We don't want to disturb the balance of industrial relations. Legal action would be unnecessarily provocative," the spokesman said.

He indicated however that if the strikes continued - they have already been repudiated by the unions - the company might consider litigation.

Night-shift workers at both the Dagenham assembly plant and the normally moderate Southampton complex continued the action started on Thursday and the day shift at the body works at the Essex plant also also walked out yesterday. Pro-

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started late in the wake of the walk-outs.

Management calculated that 960 Fiestas had been lost at Dagenham and 80 to 100 Transit vans at Southampton.

Shop stewards throughout Ford's 13-plant network yesterday began the consultation process over the offer which gives 4.75 per cent from next week and 4.5 per cent, or the inflation rate plus 0.5 per cent, next year, whichever is greater. Union representatives are to meet next Wednesday and are expected to call for further talks with management.

Steve Hart, full-time official of the Transport and General Workers' Union at the Dagenham plant predicted that his members would reject the proposed settlement.

"Given the productivity improvements delivered by workers, the package simply does not measure up to expectations. This was the year when we wanted a more generous response." he said.

The pay offer was inade-

duction lines at both works ments on pension entitlements were insufficient. Unions also anted to pursue their claim for a two-hour reduction in the

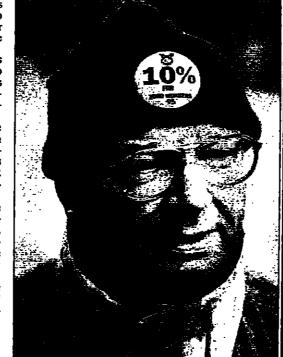
orking week to 37 hours. Shop stewards at other plants however are more disposed to accept the offer. Convenors from Bridgend and representatives from Halewood have voted to accept.

Some union insiders believe that the 22,000 Ford production workers will accept the offer given that 4.75 per cent compares favourably with the 3 per cent ing rate elsewhere and the inflation rate of 3.2 per cent. There is a split in the union

camp. The Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, which represents skilled workers, pushes for a reduction in the working week, while the T&G places more emphasis on pay. The Ford spokesman said the

package was a "very good offer" and that most workers had wel-

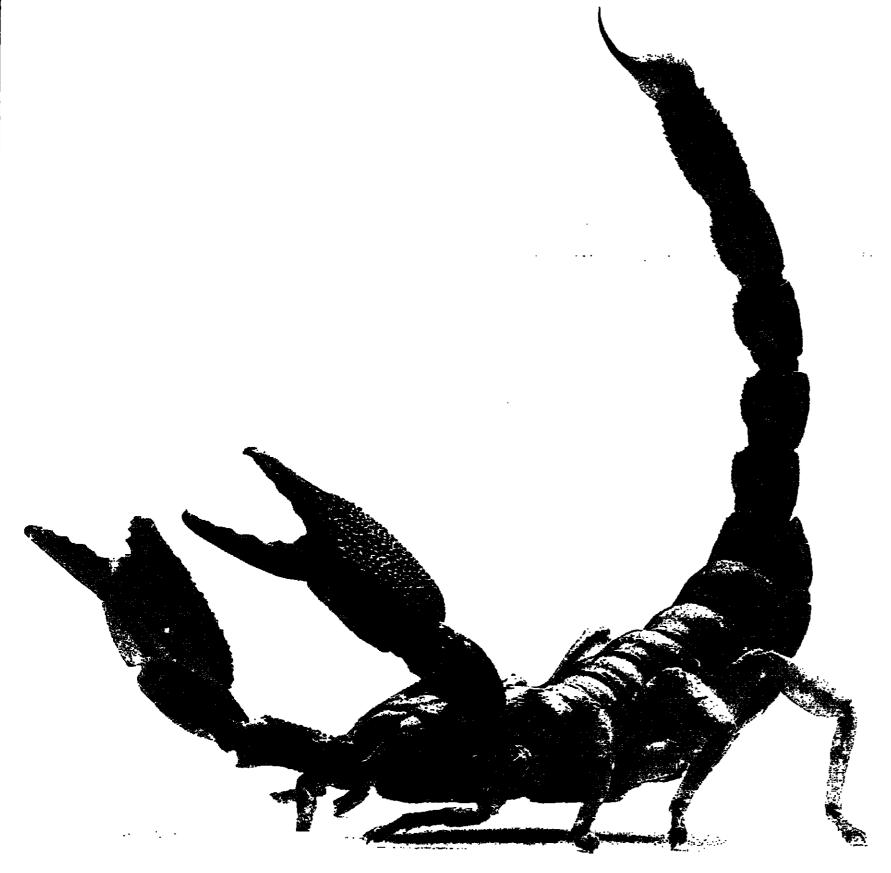
comed the pay increase. Leaders of 10,000 workers at Vauxhall are predicting a large majority in favour of industrial action in a ballot over an of-





quate and suggested improve- fer of 7 per cent over two years. Winter stoppage: A worker on the picket line outside Dagenham yesterday (Photograph: Edward Webb) and strikers at the Ford plant in 1985

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'New' workers try old tactics

BARRIE CLEMENT

Ford workers are far more docile than they were in the 1970s, but there are indications that over the last year they

have felt increasingly aggrieved. The 22,000 manual workers down from 50,000 around 25 years ago - have seen production lines speeding and profitability improving. They now want a share of the changing fortunes of the company which posted a £25m pre-tax profit in 1994 compared with a £92m loss the previous year.

As one union official put it: "Higher productivity is not a theoretical calculation to my members. They have seen the line speeding up and they are sweating blood."

The typical Ford worker has more to lose from the kind of wildcat action staged within the last 48 hours than his predecessor of the 1970s. The average age of employees has also increased from late 20s to late 30s, and so they have greater commitments. With high unemployment, people are hanging on to their jobs for

burdened with mortgage paywill be saving to go the United States on holiday rather than the Costa Brava, and others will be committed to regular monthly payments for household electronic equip-

unskilled and semi-skilled pro-

Growing sense of grievance

sees return of 70s-style militancy

ageing cars, many more now, take advantage of the 20 per cent in-house discount to buy? new Ford vehicles.

The sense of community and solidarity is far more subdued than in the 70s. Many of the employees in Dagenham for instance, which make up around 40 per cent of the total workforce, now live some way away from the factory. Most used to live in the sprawling council estates surrounding the plant.

Their standard of living has improved – largely through the greater availability of consumer goods, although their relative position in the pay league has remained steady. Car workers have always been near the top for production workers.

The proportion of union membership has hardly changed in the last quarter of a century. The Transport and General Workers' Union claims 100 per A far greater proportion are cent membership among line workers and even management concedes a proportion in

of 90 per cent. Perhaps more worrying for the Government than the present bout of pay militancy is that an increasing number of them seem to be deserting the Con-While in the Seventies, the servative Party for Tony Blair's

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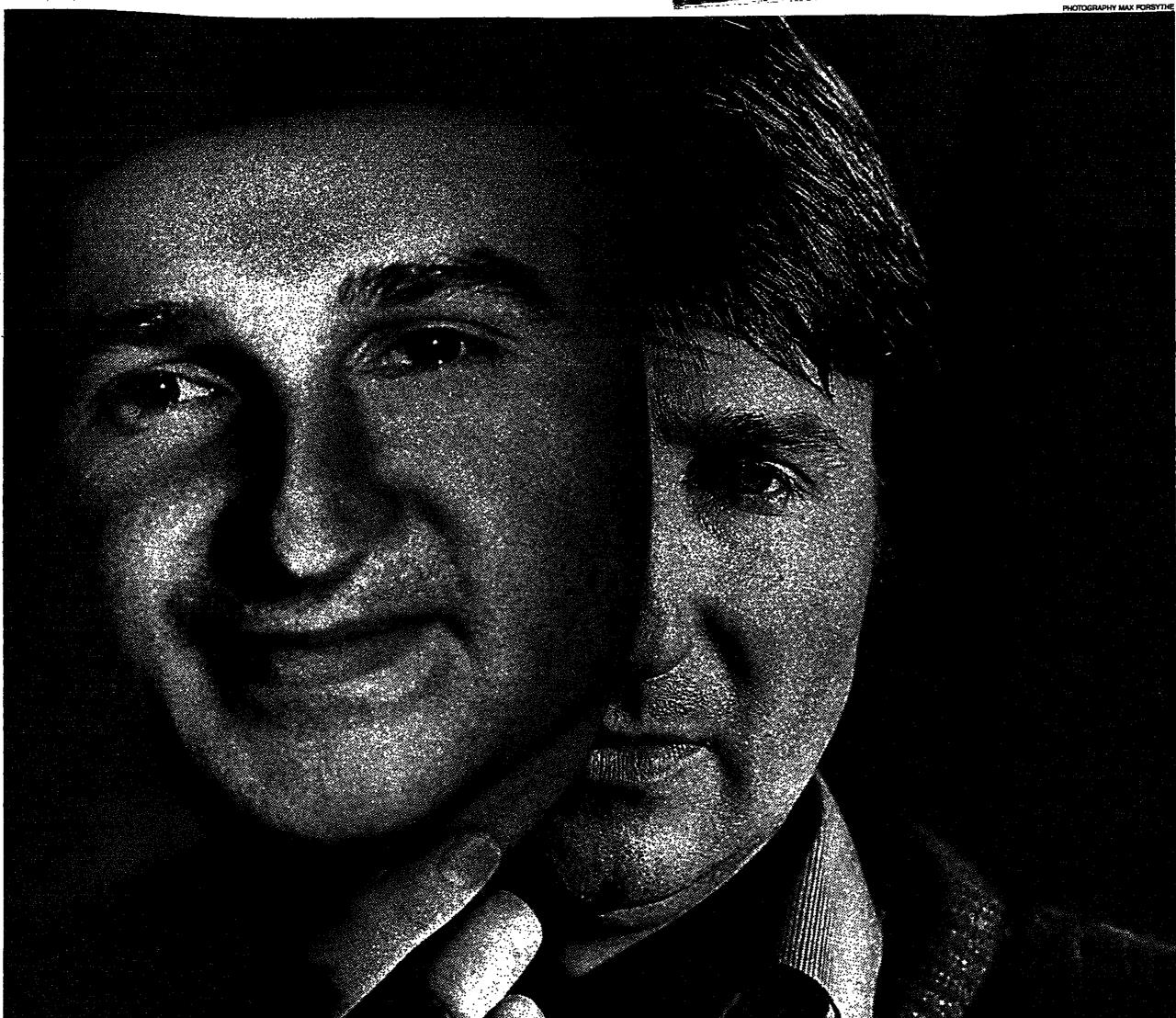


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an well so through it with you. The Samaritans

PATRICIA WYNN DAVIES

Up to 50 religious peers, predominantly Tories, are expect-ed to be fiercely lobbied over attempts to amend the Family Law Bill, allowing "no-fault" divorce after one year, which was published as a House of Lords measure yesterday.

By convention, peers do not oppose measures on the second reading but the accompanying debate, fixed for Wednesday week, will be a barometer of the feeling against the Bill and the likely scope and number of amendments. Opponents are gearing up for intensive lobbying in an attempt to inflict maximum damage on the Bill before it transfers to the Commons.

The controversial Bill incorporates measures due to have been passed in last session's Family Homes and Domestic Violence Bill, which a group of Tory MPs alleged would undermine marriage by giving people who live together identical rights with married couples in domestic violence cases.

While the new Bill retains the

Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord
Chancellor, has made four fault to be retained as proof of changes in the detail. Courts would have to have regard to the fact that cohabitants have not made the same commitment as married couples, and cohabitants would have to use more expensive High Court proceedings

instead of county courts to re-solve property disputes. Conabitants without property rights would also only be able to exclude violent partners from the home for a maximum of 12 months. The burden of proof for spouses trying to eject a violent partner would be easier.

But few concessions have been made in relation to the divorce proposals. The principal difference between the Bill and the preceding White Paper is that not all couples may have to attend an interview setting out information on mediation, the consequences of divorce and the requirements necessary to secure a divorce or separation order. The Bill gives the Lord Chancellor the power to make

regulations to cover exceptions. Far more controversially, the Bill retains the White Paper preference for a minimum oneyear reflection period, during arrangements for a life apart. According to Lords sources, that is virtually certain to produce an amendment calling for

the irretrievable breakdown of marriage is also expected.

The former law lord Lord Si-

mon of Glaisdale, a crossbencher but a former Tory minister and a strong campaigner for the sanctity of marriage, is expected to be one focus of opposition to the Bill. Other Catholic or religious peers who could oppose it include the Duke of Norfolk, former Tory minister Lord Elton, the Tory moral fundamentalist Baroness Cox, Lord Ashbourne, Tory and chairman of the Joshua Christian Trust, and crossbencher Baroness Ryder of Warsaw, co-founder of the Ryder Cheshire Foundation.

While a free vote has been promised, the Government is certain to seek to stymie the campaign against the Bill by insisting that the so-called "payroll vote" - ministers and parliamentary aides - support it. ■ The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales vesterday attacked the stridency of the campaign against the Divorce in which right-wing Catholics have been prominent "If the whole debate is thrown hither and tother [sic], what example does that give to children? The way we conduct debate in public has got to be educative." the Bishop of East Anglia, Pe-

Howard sounds retreat on help for prosecutions

STEPHEN WARD Legal Affairs Correspondent

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, revealed yesterday that he has watered down his Bill designed to prevent defences in court cases "ambushing" prosecutions with the introduction of late information.

On publication of the Bill, Mr concessions compared to the gung-ho proposals to remove defence rights to see police files he had outlined in a con-

sultation paper in May.
The original plan was for the the prosecution to give the defence only the material from their files they consider relevant to the case. The defence could only ask for more at a later stage after it had outlined its own case, and if it could prove that what it wanted to see was part of that original case.

But as published, the Criminal Procedure and Investigations Bill forces the prosecution to disclose at the outset a list of everything relating to the investigation. leaving open the possibility that the defence will still be able to go on a "fishing

expedition" based on the list. The extent of Mr Howard's concession to lawyers who had feared the new system would is underlined by the wording of the May consultation paper which said that to disclose a schedule at this stage "would not be an advance on the current unsatisfactory position".

In a second concession, Mr Howard has agreed in the Bill that the defence will not, as the of all their witnesses.

The 49 clause Bill, which was given a first reading in the Lords on Thursday, includes provision for the first time in English law that a defendant who has been acquitted can face a retrial if one of the jurors or witnesses is later convicted of being "nobbled".

The Bill also provides: ■ A statutory scheme for preparatory hearings before trials in long and complex cases, modelled on the existing arrangements for serious fraud

A measure to allow judges to make binding rulings on points of law or admissibility of evidence at a pre-trial hearing: And procedures at magis trates' courts requiring defendants to indicate their plea before a decision is taken on hearing the case before magistrates or at the Crown Court.

Al-Fayed gives up 'Today' fight

MATHEW HORSMAN and STEVE BOGGAN

Mohamed al-Fayed was last night prepared to thrown in the towel in the aftermath of his failed bid to take over Today, the national newspaper closed by Rupert Murdoch.

However, sources close to the controversial owner of Harrods hinted he would consider starting a newspaper from scratch, having decided existing titles such as the Express would be too expensive to turn around.

Meanwhile, a party held by Today staff to drown their sor-rows degenerated into a mass brawl which had to be stopped by dozens of police officers. One man was taken to hospital with arm injuries caused by broken glass and eight more were charged with public order offences when a disagreement inside Henry's Cafe Bar in Tobacco Dock, east London, over-heated and spilled outside.

According to Scotland Yard. the light started at 10.40pm in the middle of a gathering of 300 people. Charges range from affray to being drunk and disorderly and assaulting a police officer. All were released on police bail to appear before Thames Magistrates' Court on

3 January. A key advisor to Mr al-Fayed said last night that "we will have to forget about Today. It is clear that Murdoch has made this decision for purely commercial reasons, and we will not be able to change his mind". It is believed that Mr Mur-

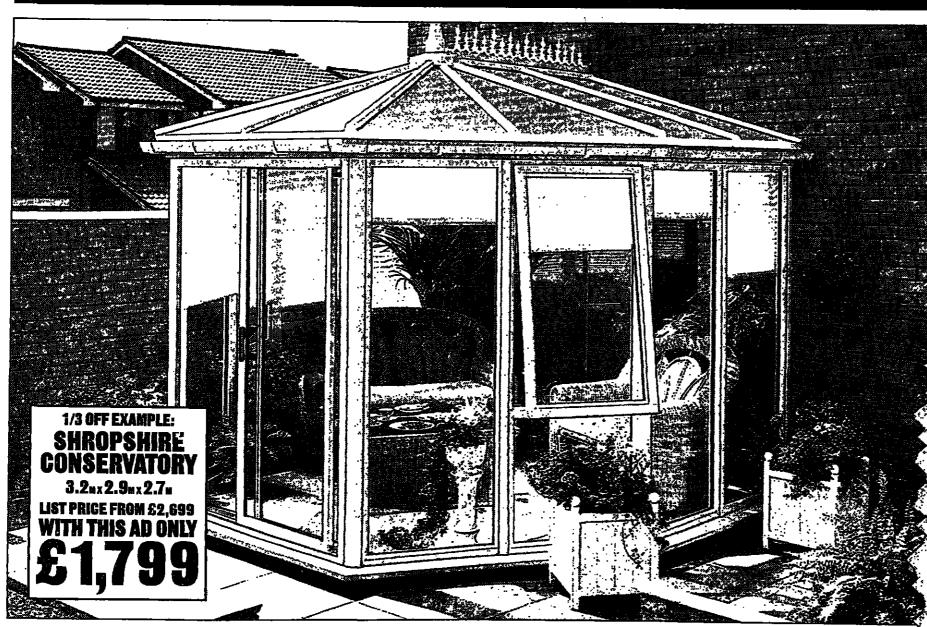
doch hopes to entice Today readers to the Sun. Mr al-Fayed had also tried to buy Today last summer. According to informed sources, Mr al-Fayed offered £1 to take the

title off Mr Murdoch's hands, but was willing to absorb the £10m current-year losses. The al-Fayed camp yesterday

repeated assertions that political interference had influenced Mr Murdoch's decision. It believes the Government was prepared to stop a sale at all costs, and had offered to give Mr Murdoch a freer ride on cross-me-dia ownership rules in the new broadcasting bill, to be pub-lished at the end of the month

Today's closure has also fueled romours that Mr Murdoch is poised to take a stake in United News and Media, publishers of the Express titles.

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National Lottery: Half of jackpot winners choose to remain in jobs and save their money rather than go for luxurious lifestyle

Modest millionaires who work, work, work

REBECCA FOWLER

The National Lottery has created an exclusive new club of cautious millionaires, who have invested two-thirds of their money, limited spending to new cars and houses and not given up the day job.

A survey of the top 200 winners, who have scooped around £150m between them in the first year of the lottery, shows that on average they have invested 51 per cent of their total win, 21 per cent in the bank.

Half have also continued to work for a living, with 17 per cent staying in the jobs they already had, and 33 per cent taking up new positions after paying off all their debts.

Among the new working mil-lionaires is Bob Westland, 57, a sub-postmaster from Alloa in Scotland, who retired yesterday with his wife Anne, a deputy head teacher in a primary school. They hope to buy a local hotel and run it as a family business instead.

"The best thing about win-ning the lottery is knowing your children will be secure, and even more so your grandchildren, because you wonder what kind of jobs are going to be out there for them in the future," Mr Westland said. "They are going to reap the benefits of this, because at 57, I'm pretty set in my ways. It's great to know that they have that ahead of them. One of my sons drives HGV lorries, and he's already been able to buy his own so he's working



Carry on grafting: Bob Westland is retiring as sub-postmaster in Plean, Central Scotland, but will use his lottery winnings to run a local hotel

So far the Westlands' most expensive purchase is a new car, a BMW, which they intended to buy anyway to replace their Vauxball Cavalier. They will not move from their five-bed-

and have no immediate plans

The most popular purchase for winners is a new car, with 68 per cent buying at least one. Lee Ryan, from Osbaston, in

unusually extravagant winner was given an 18-month prison opting for a Rolls-Royce, a sentence for handling stolen Bentley, a Ferrari and a vehicles before his jackpot win. Almost half the big winners

Unfortunately Ryan, who have bought a house, including won £6.5m, will not be able to Ryan who purchased a £1m drive them for some time. He farmhouse. A further 11 per

survey confirms winning the cent have bought a home for National Lottery is a dream come true," said David Rigg, someone else and 51 per cent

communications director.

have taken a holiday. According to Camelot, the National Lottery operator, the results do prove a jackpot win is life-transforming. "Today's ing for all of them. Although on an average they give 14 per cent of their win nings away, the lottery has highlighted domestic rifts.

better, it has not been plain sail-

Mark Gardiner, a double of the largest jackpot so far. £22.5m, received a claim from his estranged wife for half his fortune. He reportedly paid her £1m on their divorce

Mr Gardiner also said he had beer poured over him by people calling him a "rich basiard", and said he felt like a prisoner because of his fame.

The three best things about winning the lottery, according to the survey, are financial security, helping family and friends, and the ability to fulfil

lifetime ambitions. When winners are given their cheques, they are immediately advised to spend nothing and go on holiday to let the shock sink in. The most popular destinations are Barbados, the Bahamas and Disneyland.

Perhaps the modest winners so far are Esther Tracey, 24, from Poplar, east London, who won £14m. She bought her parents a Ford Escort, and still lives at home with them. And Mark Lund, 31, who won £5m, made his first purchase a season ticket for his local football team, Third Division Doncaster.

Yet despite their caution winners of the jackpot, which has created 132 millionaires, say But despite the claim that 100 their biggest regrets are that per cent of winners believed their lives had changed for the

Survey fuels concern over ticket sales to youngsters

The National Lottery watchdog tery operator, Camelot, to edis to publish a report on illegal ucate retailers on how to deal sales of tickets to children following disclosures that they are regularly sold to under-16s, it was disclosed yesterday.

An academic retained by the Office of National Lottery has been gathering data from all over the country for some time, a spokesman for the organisation said yesterday. Offot said a survey carried out

by trading standards officers in Devon had shown that tickets were regularly sold to children. The findings are to be passed to the police. "We take a serious view of selling to kids, it is against the law," said the Oflot One of Oflot's duties is to en-

sure that games did not encourage excessive gambling, and are not available to under-16s. But the onus was on the lotucate retailers on how to deal with the age issue, it said. A Camelot spokesman said

it had not yet seen the results of the Devon survey, which showed that 50 per cent of 24 attempted purchases by underage youngsters were successful. But it confirmed that it would investigate and suspend any retailer who knowingly sold to under-16s. "We try to reinforce the under-16s issue with retailers," the spokesman said. Recently a retailer in Liverpool had his lottery terminal removed fol-

lowing an investigation. survey, which used children aged from 10 to 14, also showed that retailers sold solvents, cigarettes and inappropriate videos to under-age children. Devon's trading standards director, Steve Butterworth, said:

"Some retailers were not aware youngsters had to be 16 to buy

The Institute of Trading Standards Administration is holding talks with the police about the need for a national enforcement regime for lottery tickets.

The Gaming Board, the betting industry's official regulator, wants the sale of National Lottery tickets and Instants scratch cards to be banned for children aged under-18, bringing them into line with the legal age for other types of The youngsters in the survey

The Devon trading standards also made 11 successful purchases of solvents from 17 attempts, the Devon report

Cigarettes were bought seven times from 20 attempts, and videos six times from 26 at-

An offer of a lyeurve.



A gold card with no annual fee guaranteed for life.

Bank cleared over debt recall

A couple who claimed their Cardiff yesterday rejected their thousands of pounds to fund businesses were wrecked when Barclays Bank called in their £40,000 overdraft were left to pick up a bill for £350,000 yesterday after losing a court bat-

tle for compensation. Nigel Green and Yvonne Challis started the legal battle when a replacement manager at their branch called in the debt. They claimed their riding school and haulage businesses were wrecked by the action.

compensation claim - and £311,000 in overdraft, loans and interest. They were also told to pay the costs of the hearing estimated at £30,000.

The couple, both 42, who moved to Pencader, Dyfed, called in their debts. from Kent, said: "Our dreams are wrecked."

A judge at the High Court in godmother" - loaned them

their business. But when he left ordered them to pay a total of the bank suffering from "severe £311,000 in overdraft, loans stress" their ventures collapsed. Their counsel told the court

"the rug was pulled from beneath their feet" when new acting manager Hywel George

Judge Michael Gibbon ruled the bank was entitled to call in The court was told that manager Mervyn Jones - who was the overdraft. "They took the view that further funding of the described as acting like a "fairy business would be throwing good money after bad," he said.

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in the Fab Four's footsteps: The first students at Paul McCartney's Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts join Gerry Marsden (centre) - who had a hit with Ferry Cross the Mersey. LIPA is based in the old high school attended by former Beatles McCartney and George Harrison Photograph: Craig Easton

Rationing makes the NHS a lottery, warns Labour

NICHOLAS TIMMINS Public Policy Editor

Rationing is now "sweeping through the NHS" Harriet Harman, Labour's health spokeswoman, claimed yesterday as an independent survey showed that almost one-third of health authorities are now limiting, barring or considering reducing a range of services from treatments for glue ear to routine urine testing of pregnant women and radical treatment for disseminated cancers.

Her claim brought angry deuals from Stephen Dorrell, the Secretary of State for Health. who in a sharp Commons clash accused her of lying.

"Her evidence does not remotely justify the charges she is making," he said. Health authorities were consulting doctors on which treatments were good

and ensuring the service re-flected those developments.

If authorities were "ruling out. in every case treatments that doctors wanted to offer their patients, that would indeed be a subject of real concern. That is not what is happening".

Ms Harman backed her

claim with evidence from a database of health authorities' purchasing intentions which shows that among the 40 health authorities some are considering excluding or reducing routine ultrasound in low-risk pregnancies and routine screening for brittle bone disease, aortic aneurysms and also colorectal cancer.

This is the thin end of the wedge." she said. "Yesterday it was grommets, fertility treatment and sterilisation. Today it is varicose veins and osteoporosis screening. Tomorrow it will be hernias and hip replacements". Three health authorities - Bury and Rochdale, Worcester and District, and North and Mid Hampshire were openly describing their de-

cisions as rationing, she added. Ten have targeted varicose veins, 23 have targeted grom-

value and latest clinical practice osteoporosis screening, 21 have targeted D&C [dilation and cure tage, or scraping of the lin-ing of the womb] in women under 40, and eight have tar geted fertility treatment".

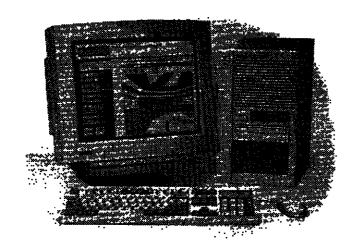
Health care had become "a lottery depending on where you live" and the Government's refusal to admit rationing was taking place was part of its dri-

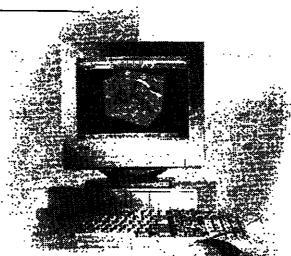
ve towards NHS privatisation. Alan Milburn, her frontbench colleague, said the data from Blackwell Masters, an independent health consultancy which has analysed health authorities' plans, showed "disinvestment from screen aortic aneurysm in North Birmingham, from ultrasounds for pregnant women in Powys and from cholesterol screening in igan and Bolton".

Rationing was not inevitable. he argued. The money was available but swallowed up by the extra £1bn cost of runni the NHS internal market.

Ms Harman, however, refused to give a pledge that Labour would restore the services being reduced. Decisions on treatment should be made by doctors acting in patients' best interests, and she recognised that medical practice changed

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PC Computing, June 1995

Treatment policy in 40 districts

= Health authorities restricting, barring or considering reductions in provision of treatments Key to treatments: A: Vericose veins; B: Groromet C. Osteoporisis Screening, D. Diletion & Circlinge for women under 40, E. Subfertility, F. Other

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Opinions vary over

value of treatments

Detailed examination of health authorities' purchasing plans procedures they plan to limit, now far they intend to do so, and by what methods.

Doctors said yesterday that the lack of effectiveness of many of the treatments, or their unproven nature, was cading anyway to a fall in how often they were performed.

Twenty-one authorities are reducing the numbers of D&C operations in women under 40. But Robert Winston, professor of obstetries and gynaecology at the Royal Postgraduate Hospital. Hammersmith, said: "This is not a good one to crucify Stephen Dorrell on. For most women under 40 it is a waste of time, and if there was a strong indication that it really should

be done, it would be done". Only two authorities, South laffordshire and Leicestershire, are refusing to purchase any such operations, with Leicestershire also refusing to pay for grommet inscrtions for ue car - a procedure some doctors believ e has been heavily overused. Others allow such operations in exceptional cases r specific circumstances.

North Birmingham is aiming to reduce expenditure on screening for aortic ancurysm, osteo-porcess and colorectal cancer on the grounds that the effectiveness of such procedures "is proved to be of little benefit". Gordon Blackwell, a partner in Blackwell Masters who produced the database, said very

Analysis

few health authorities routinely screened for such conditions. He admitted the benefit of such treatments was not known, but added: "The fact is that for a range of these services if you live in one district you will get them and if you cross the boundary to another you won't. The NHL . is becoming a local service with

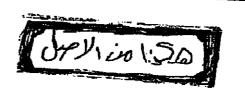
national co-ordination". West Kent has excluded L. n its block contracts a wide recog of treatments from bone o .row transplants, abort. . . . cochlear implants, sterilisa in to the implantation of defit.... lators. But it will consider in ing them "on an indr-

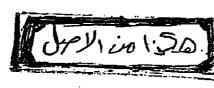
Portsmouth and Souti. Hampshire is considerin ducing the amount it snew? radical treatment of disnated cancers as shows there is little to be gated from this", and breast-care screening for women out is national age-target of 50 spokesman for the NHS says ing programme said that bel. the age of 50, women's brease

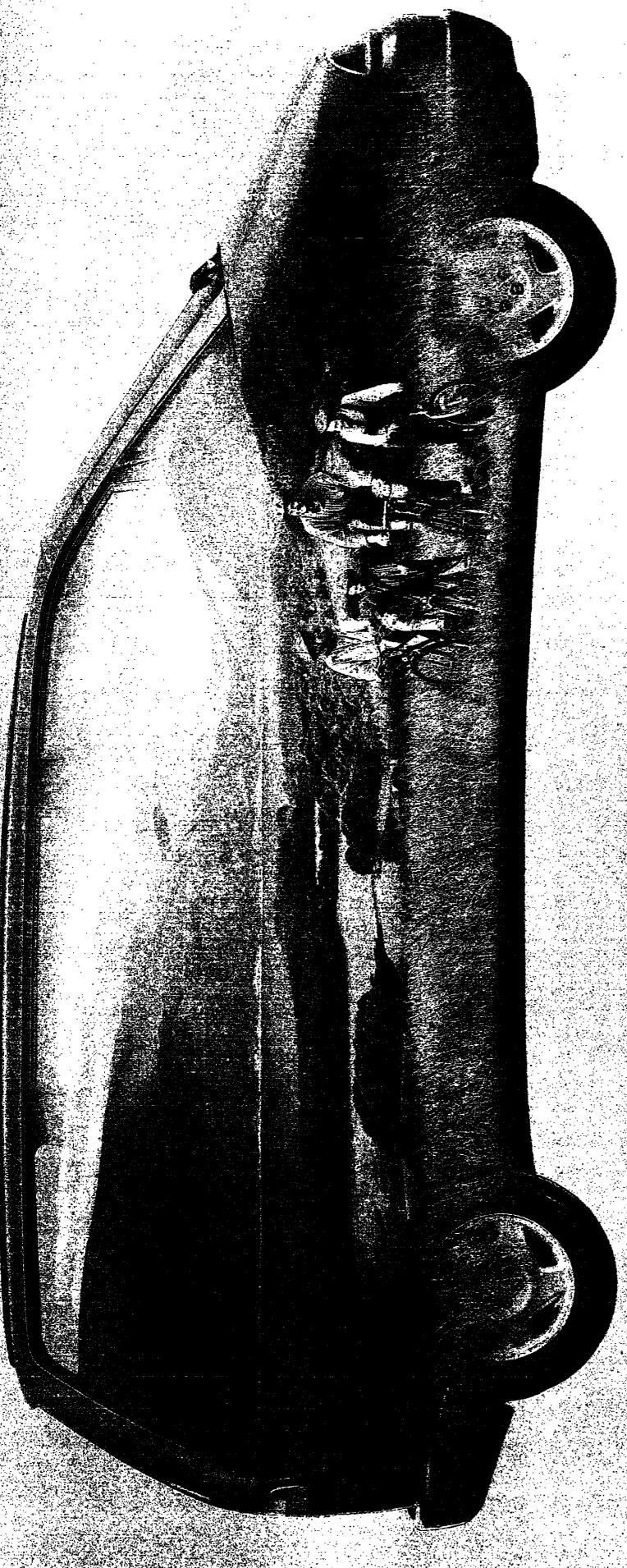
be picked up.

Many of the exclusions cover cosmetic surgery, gender re-assignment and infertility. though most of the 40 health authorities say they will consider them in exceptional cases.

Nicholas Timmins







2

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Mobile phones charge plan 'is outrageous'

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

The Consumers' Association has attacked as "outrageous" plans to impose a monthly call charge limit on some mobile telephone customers or force them to pay a deposit.

The scheme - intended to combat fraud - is being intro-duced by Cellphones Direct. a mobile service provider, but industry sources say that other companies may follow suit.

Cellphones Direct has said that from next February new customers will be limited to £50 per month and must pay a deposit to have this extended.

Existing customers will also be constrained to £50, but can negotiate a higher limit with the company. In addition, international calls will be barred on all new phones unless customers reach some agreement with the company. This could involve leaving a substantial deposit to have the ban removed. Cellphone Direct said that the moves will help give customers "peace of mind" and that it is setting standards "which will become the industry norm.

The company, which deals mainly with customers connecting to the Vodafone network, said that the purpose is to protect it from giving unlimited credit and to protect

customers from theft or unauthorised use of their telephones. Illicit use of mobile telephones costs the industry an estimated £100m a year although Cellnet and Vodafone, the largest network operators, say they are making great strides in getting the problem under control.

A spokesman for the Consumers' Association attacked the proposal by Cellphones Di-

Look who's talking **Estimated** mobile

telephone customers Number using digital

networks: 1 million Calls made each day on mobile networks: about

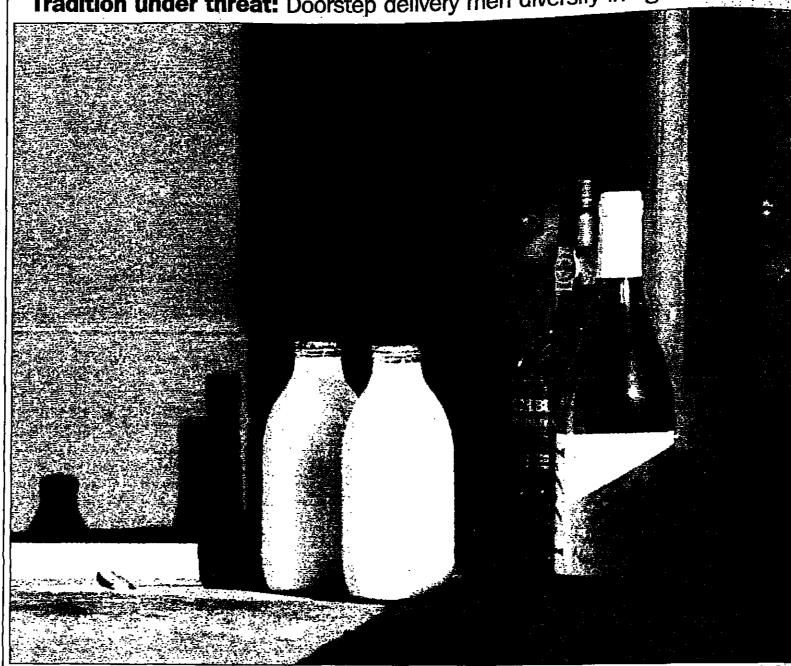
rect, saying: "This is just another example of an industry in a complete mess which is asking the customer to pay the price. "It simply is up to the industry to provide a secure service for the people who use it and to provide a solid technical solution to the problem. People

already pay through the nose for using mobile telephones. Oftel, the telecommunications watchdog, said that service and the customers, are not licensed and so fall outside its sphere of influence. A spokeswoman said: "If that is the package they wish to offer then they are free to do so."

Roger Fry, managing director of Cellphones Direct rejected the suggestion that he is asking the consumer to pick up an extra bill. He said that the company's average customers are not business users and spend between £10 and £15 per month on calls. The £50 limit was chosen both to protect and to give people as much flexibility as possible, he said.

The incidence of mobile telephone fraud may be reduced as more people transfer to new digital networks, which are much more secure than the old analogue systems. But while digital technology might stem "cloning" of mobile telephones, it cannot prevent people "buy-ing" phones using other people's credit card numbers or names and addresses and simply not paying the bill.

Both Cellnet and Vodafone said that the industry clearly has a problem and that service providers have to do something to protect their interests. They said there are already safeguards in the networks which flag up unusually high providers, which are middlemen spending on a given telephone between the network operators or unexpected calling patterns. Tradition under threat: Doorstep delivery men diversify in fight for survival



Dear milkman: Two pints and a bottle of Beaujolais

HAZEL DUFFY

The residents of rural France could hardly believe their eyes this week as a traditional British milk float loaded with Beaujolais nouveau trundled its leisurely way northwards towards Calais en route for the heart of England.

The stunt was part of a ploy by Midland Co-op Dairies to publicise its latest attempt to keep doorstep milk deliveries in

400,000 customers in the Mid- But they have not come. from a monthly catalogue wine which their milkman delivers di-stilton cheese and Thai cookrect to the door.

In the summer, the milkmen were piling barbecue fodder on their floats. Now they will be humping packs of wine up the garden path three-bottle packs selling at £11.99, with slightly more dis-tinguished six-bottle packs sell-

ing at just under £30. This is wine to the doorstep. however, not wine on the doorstep. There will not be any drunken blue tits imbibing wine through foil tops. All deliveries of alcohol have to be

signed for by an adult. The dairy had steeled itself for attacks from the teetotal brigade, on the grounds that doorsten deliveries were somehow more tempting than alco-From this week, the Co-op's hol on the supermarket shelves.

books, even tea-tree oil gel and aromatherapy packs, all the while keeping a traditional caring eye on the old people among his customers, taking note that the milk bottles have been safely taken in.

well as to the paying customer ward by the industry in favour of milk deliveries in the face of wicked plots by Eurocrats in Brussels to deprive the British

of their doorstep pinta. In fact, the supermarket is the real enemy of the traditional milkman - selling milk in bulkquantity cartons at a price the doorstep vendor cannot hope to

Catalogue "home shopping" is a desperate bid to stave off his demise, and there seems to

Peter Vaughan, marketing manager for Midland's Co-op Dairies, says that his doorstep milk sales this year have fallen by "between a third and a half" less the 5 per cent fall for the

industry as a whole.
The 800 milkmen are the new

Service to the community as termined within a "performance-related structure", or commission by any other name. They have a hard sell ahead,

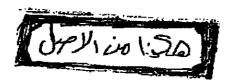
competition in wines, and every other item on offer, is every bi as intense as for the humble pint of milk. Doorstep deliveries are being used by others to add edge in the competition.

Bass recently started a pilot scheme delivering beers to the door in Birmingham and Nottingham – so far. you have to be a Carling Black Label fan - but London gets a choice of eight premium beers. Discounts and the beginning.

Brummies with long memories can afford to be smug. The local Davenport brewery, long since gone and its brand subsumed into Greenall Whitley, did doorstep deliveries of The \$00 milkmen are the new entrepreneurs, their pay deof service has come full circle.







Fresh effort to privatise student loan scheme

FRAN ABRAMS

Education Correspondent

Banks and other financial institutions will be invited to bid to run a privatised student loan scheme under a government Bill published yesterday.

Ministers hope that in future the banks will take on costs of more than £1bn per year for students' living costs, but last night they were still sceptical about the idea.

The banks have said they will only take part in the new, twotier system if it is commercially viable. They pulled out of the existing scheme before it started in 1990 because they said they would not make money out of it. Instead, the loans were funded by the Treasury and administered by a company set up for the purpose.

However, ministers now feel that the costs are growing too high and that some alternative must be found.

Figures released earlier this week showed that almost £1.3bn lent to students since overall and a better deal for stu-

1990 remained unpaid. Of 435,000 graduates with loans, only 204,000 were up to date with payments, while 44,000 were in arrears and 187,000 did not have to pay because they were earning less than 85 per cent of the average

The proportion of students taking out loans has risen to 55 per cent from 28 per cent in 1990, and the average value of each loan has increased from with students, who still believe £390 to £1,040. Handing responsibility over to the banks could remove up to £1bn from the public sector borrowing requirement from the next acad-

Under the new legislation. both the Student Loan Company and up to four banks

would offer loans to students at interest rates pegged to inflation. The loan company pay-ments would continue to be covered by the Treasury. The banks would receive a subsidy from the Secretary of State to reimburse them for the interest

they would lose. Bids will be invited from any financial institution which is interested, but it is thought that for the scheme to succeed, at least one of the "big four" high street banks would have to

take part.
They have said that levels of outstanding debt would have to be cut if they were to volunteer. Otherwise, the prospect of win-ning extra business from students would be outweighed by the risk of substantial losses.

Announcing the Student Loans Bill, the higher education minister Eric Forth said students would benefit from the choice offered by the new system.

"The expertise and experience of the private sector would mean a better loans system dents," he said. The president of the National Union of Students, Jim

banks warning them not to get involved. The union fears the new loans will offer discounted terms for fast repayment to those who can afford it and will leave the rest to deal with the

Murphy, has written to all the

loans company. Loans are very unpopular the state should pay for their maintenance, and it is possible that a bank might lose business by taking part against their

ly the activities of any banks that get involved in this scheme," Mr Murphy warned.



Arms and the woman: A Sten Mk III gun once owned by Winston Churchill, which fetched £9,000 at auction at Christie's in London yesterday. Churchill kept the gun, now deactivated, at Chartwell, his country home in Kent, during the Second World War Photograph: John Voos

rivers thought corpse was dummy

Motorists who passed a layby where the body of a building society manageress was dumped thought the corpse was a shop-window dummy left there as a joke, the "fakerobbery" murder trial was told

Malcolm Ward told Oxford Crown Court that he had been about 6.30am on 12 September "Students will view very dimlast year. "I remember seeing a

a dummy from a shop or a

drunk just sleeping."
Gordon Wardell, 42, denies murdering his 39-year-old wife Carol, a Woolwich Building Society manageress, at the couple's home in the Warwickshire village of Meriden.

The prosecution has alleged that Mr Wardell suffocated his travelling along the A444 at wife at home, dumped her body Nuncaton, Warwickshire, at on the verge of the A444 at Nuncaton, where she worked, then used her keys and securibody-shaped object lying on ty code to break into the branch the grass verge. I saw it in my and take £14,000 to make it look headlights. I thought it could be as if robbers had killed her.

gagged, beaten and trussed up at his home.

He told them that a four-man gang had rendered him unconscious, and that one memberof the gang, who had been wearing a clown mask, abducted his

wife at knifepoint. Another motorist, Stuart Garrett, told police: "I stopped in the layby and saw what appeared to be a dummy lying there. I could see the legs pointing towards the road and a bare midriff but couldn't see a face. I was thinking it was a dummy fully clothed but had no shoes.

Police found Mr Wardell and had been put there as a practical joke.

Two hours later, a third driver, Peter Beard, stopped and realised it was a human body. "I decided to kill a bit of time as I was driving along and stopped in the layby," he told

the court. "I saw what at first looked like a dummy then realised it was a human body. I thought it was a man because I couldn't see the features of the face."

Inspector Roger Price said in

One sling-back sandal was found close by the left foot. He was later called to the

building society where Mrs Wardell had worked.
"I looked through the front window and could see a sandal lying in the centre of the cus-

tomer area," he said. "I could see it was the same style I had noticed at the scene. The sandal was for the right foot. I alerted colleagues that both incidents appeared to be connected.

The trial was adjourned

Videos firm to challenge censors

HELEN HAGUE

Film consorship in Britain is to be exposed to court scrutiny for the first time in its 70-year his-

Redemption Films, which specialises in horror and erotic videos, has been granted leave by Mr Justice Latham for a judicial review of procedures at both the British Board of Film Classification and the

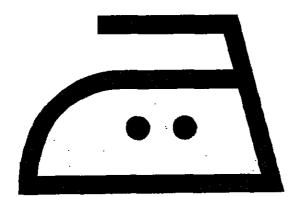
Video Appeals Committee.
The move follows a decision earlier this year to refuse classification to Bare Behind Bars, a film in the so-called "women in prison" genre, which Re-demption had planned to release on video.

The court will be asked to rule that the clarification process adopted by the BBFC was unlawful when it refused to grant the film a video classification last September. Redemption then challenged the decision before the Video Appeals Committee. After a twoday hearing the ban was upheld.

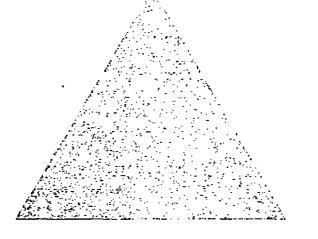
Lawyers for Redemption Films will argue that the BBFC was neither fair nor consistent in its approach when classifying the video. They will also contend that James Ferman, the BBFC's director, was manifestly wrong in his application of the new Criminal Justice Act which deals with video classifi-

This challenge will allow the court properly to consider for the first time the contentious parts of the Criminal Justice Act which deal with censorship. Redemption will also argue that it did not get a fair hear-ing from the Video Appeals Committee in June. It will be seeking a court order that the decision of both the censorship board and the appeals committee should be quashed.

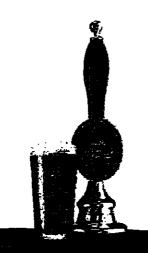
Nigel Wingrove, who runs Redemption Films, said: "I'm hoping the judicial review will lead to a fundamental overhaul of the censorship process. Bare Behind Bars is a tongue-incheek sleaze epic which should not have been banned."



Iron on a medium setting.



Radically rethink the whole ironing idea.



Zeroual celebrates victory over terror

ALGIERS

They thought the war was over. President Liamine Zeroual -tinier than one had rememhin smiling below his silver moustache among the beefy security men - had no sooner turned up in front of us to thank Algerians for his election victory than the shooting broke out. Plainclothes cops, blue-uniformed policemen. security agents, all heaved huge pistols from their belts and fired into the sky, sometimes only a few feet behind the presidential limousine. Not since independence can Algiers have witnessed so much gunfire.

"We have a democracy now." a policeman assured me, tugging a pistol from his holster. "We have won. It is over." But was this the way to celebrate peace, assuming President Zeroual's 60 per cent of the vote - or the election's officially pronounced 75 per cent turnout - meant peace was assured? The bullets skittered into the air. thousands of them, high over the sun-bathed city, their matchstick crackle mingled with the screams of motorists driving in convoys through the streets, Algerian flags streaming from the windows, bejewelled ladies shouting their love for the little ex-general who had just told us democracy was theirs.

From time to time, amid the crowds, flags and gunfire, you could remember the facts: a cancelled parliamentary election in 1991, thousands of political prisoners, 50,000 dead, the throat-slashings, beheadings,

street executions, car bombs and ambushes. And, travelling in a convoy driving from Didouche Murad street up towards the Interior Ministry, I could not help but notice the less friendbearded faces of young men who watched our cars and the gun-happy cops with peculiar intensity. Was there not, one wondered at such moments, a price to be paid for all this?

You could not put that question to the authorities yesterday. as they smothered the notice boards with election results. The wilaya of Tipaza, they announced, had an 81.82 per cent turnout and Mr Zeroual had won 62.99 per cent of the vote, his nearest rival - the Hamas leader, Mahfoud Nahnah, only 23.49 per cent. In Djidjel, the turnout was 65.73, Mr Zeroual's share 58.83, Mr Nahnah's, 27.3. Only in Tizi Ouzou, capital of the Berber country, did the Kabyle leader, Said Sadi, pick up 86.2 per cent of the local vote against Mr Zeroual's

puny 8.78 per cent. How could you doubt the turnout in Algeria of 75 per cent?" a pollster asked, when I suggested I had not seen a million Algerians on the streets of the capital on Thursday.

But there was an election, Algerians did vote and, even if suspicious reporters allowed for a little tampering with the figures, it was difficult to believe Mr Zeroual had not won. Even the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), whose parliamentary election victory in 1991 led to the suspension of the poll and the banning of the party, claimed their own dubious elec-



All the President's men: Zeroual supporters waving flags in Algiers following the ex-general's triumph in the election

tion turnout statistic of 37 per cent was higher than they had expected. The people, the FIS said, had been intimidated by 400,000 soldiers and policemen. But unlike the armed "Islamists" who support the FIS, the security men had not threat-

ened to kill every voter who turned up at the polling stations. So you could see why the dapper ex-general was grinning from ear to car yesterday morning as he hugged and kissed the tearful supporters around us. He had gambled and won, held

the knife and persuaded Algerians to vote in it, the turnout even if you deduct a percentage or two - higher than the poll that would have given Algeria to the FIS three years ago.
The people had changed

an election under the shadow of their views; that was the message the government adver-tised yesterday. If they had given their vote to "Islamists" in the 1991-92 poll, they now gave it to Mr Zeroual, to "legitimacy", to "stability", to-and how important this word be-

comes each day in Algeria 'democracy". Amid the euphoria, few

seemed to reflect on the future. If an election boycotted by the opposition and in which the FIS could not be represented is to be the key to turn back on the is our way, in Algeria," he said,

motor of democracy, what does President Zeroual do next? Tell the West, of course, that he needs help, that a country with a new, proved democratic mandate deserves the economic and political (and military?) support of Europe and the United States. And tell his elected toral opponents, Sheikh Nah-nah of Hamas and Said Sadi and the Islamist intellectual Nurre-dine Boukhrou to join him and share power. But does he also try once more to talk to those with whom he was once prepared to negotiate, the FIS? And thus, by inference, to the regime's cruellest enemies, the armed "Islamists"?

I gosnia peace taik

Such thoughts did not occupy the minds of the thousands who flocked onto the streets of Algiers last night, dancing to the sound of gunfire, ululating through the traffic jams, celebrating that most illusory of all phenomena - the peace that comes without a ceasefire or a treaty. For, if the celebrations symbolised some form of na-tional relief, they must also-to the unsmiling young men on the pavements - have seemed a provocation, something de-youtly to be hated, something to which there must be a response. It was not a happy thought, that there might be a grim price to pay for all this. "What do you think, Mr Robert?" asked one of the Interior Ministry men amid the gunfire. I smiled, but thought better of replying. When he repeated his question, I just looked at a cop firing a Kalashnikov into the sky. The man

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Italy turns on immigrants in election run-up

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The Italian government was battling yesterday to avoid being derailed by an acrimonious row over immigration, which has led to a flurry of racial insults and provocations exploited by various political parties as they jostle for position ahead of a much anticipated general election campaign.
At the insistence of the

Northern League, volatile champion of northern Italy's in-



Capitulated to Northern League

sular middle classes, the government spent most of the week drawing up an emergency decree establishing rules on the treatment of illegal immigrants, to ensure in turn that the Northern League would lend its support to the 1996 budget.

So explosive has the issue proved, however, that when the decree came before cabinet on Thursday it took all day to approve. The Prime Minister, Lamberto Dini, then took the unprecedented decision not to publish the decree's contents until it had been signed by the head of state, indicating that the argument could help precipitate the dissolution of parliament.

In less heated circumstances, the immigration issue would never have distracted Mr Dini and his non-political government from their main task: pushing the budget through parliament and establishing a few much-needed rules on the conduct of elections before handing in their resignation.

But the Northern League decided it wanted to make its voice heard before any election campaign, and insisted on a series of extreme anti-immigration measures to satisfy those of its degree of respectability.

supporters who blame the growing numbers of foreigners in Italy for crime and unemployment.

First it threatened to withdraw support for the budget, then it made noises about walking out of the centre-left coalition dominated by the former communist PDS if the immigration issue was not addressed immediately. Both Mr Dini and the PDS leader, Massimo D'Alema, knew the League's votes were too precious to lose, so they capitulated.

Centrists have accused the Northern League of blackmail, and the Vatican denounced the arrogance and "police-state methods" of certain politicians.

The language of the debate has been immoderate. Erminio Boso, a Northern League sena-tor, said immigrants should have their toe-prints taken by the police "because that's the only way to identify their tribal origin", and urged the use of rubber bullets to keep them in line.

He added that illegal immigrants should be flown home in military aircraft and dropped out with parachutes to save the expense of landing the planes. "Immigrants on civilian airlines might rape the hostesses ... and airline captains would refuse to take them because they stink," the senator went on.

Such sentiments had their effect. The far-right National Alneo-Pascist party, cheered from the sidelines because Mr Boso was echoing their call for the expulsion of all illegal immigrants.

The police, picking up on the political cue, launched raids to round up immigrants in the suburban tenementswhere many of the poorest live.

The PDS, which sells itself as a mainstream left-wing party. negotiated with the Northern League to moderate some of its more extreme proposals. On Tuesday the two parties presented a joint programme to make it easier to expel suspected criminals but also to enable working immigrants to regularise their situation and bring their families to Italy.

The government decree is believed to have taken a moderate line, but expulsions on their own are no answer since they will be hard to put into practice. In the meantime, the rhetoric of Mr Boso is acquiring a frightening

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Deal looks set to end carnage

Four years and five months after the former Yugoslavia collapsed into a brutal and hideous war, a peace settlement is within reach and may be signed as early as tomorrow night. Yet arguments will long rage about who are the winners and losers and why the war needed to be fought at all.

The most obvious losers are ordinary citizens, the fathers, mothers and children thrown into Europe's most violent conflict since 1945 because their political leaders could not resolve their differences.

Perhaps 200,000 people have been killed in Bosnia and Croatia, and many thousands were not soldiers but defenceless or butchered on the ground. Up to 3 million people have

fled their homes since war erupted in Slovenia and Croatia in June 1991 and spread the following April into Bosnia. That represents one in every eight people who lived in the old

In the process, the war has disrupted, if not destroyed, distinctive civilisations. The Serb fear that Croatia will apply never be the same again.

community of Croatia's Krajina region is no more, ruined by its armed revolt against Zagreb and by Croatia's military revenge last August, which

triggered the flight or expulsion of more than 150,000 Serbs. Even more pitiful is the fate of Bosnia's Muslims, almost entirely wiped out by Serb militants in eastern Bosnia and in northern cities such as Banja Luka, where mosques were an integral part of the landscape. The Muslims believed in a multi-cultural, pluralistic Bosnia. Their reward in the conflict has been to suffer savage "ethnic cleansing" and have their ideals

thrown back in their face. For much of the war, it seemed the Serbs would be the winners, in the sense that they had carved out control of 30 per civilians shelled from the skies cent of Croatia and 70 per cent of Bosnia and were intent on uniting these zones with Serbia. But, after Croatia's victories last summer and Nato's intervention in Bosnia, the picture looks much bleaker for the Serbs.

> Not only will be there no Greater Serbia, but the centuries-old Serb presence in Croatia has been reduced to a shell. There is every reason to

pressure on Serbs to leave Eastern Slavonia, the last remaining Serb-held region of Croatia.

Equally, although the Serbs will end up with 49 per cent of Bosnia, they will still be part of a Bosnian state internationally recognised in its pre-war frontiers. If Western governments maintain the determination that they have shown over the last three months, there will be no chance for Serbia to merge with the Bosnian Serb area.

If any of the combatants is a winner, it is Croatia. First, it has restored control over almost all its territory, with the prospect of Eastern Slavonia to follow within a maximum of two years.

Secondly, it has moved very close to its goal of building a "nationally pure" state. Lastly, it has achieved enormous influence in western and southern Bosnia, and it is the dominant partner in that republic's Muslim-Croat federation.

Contrary to the hopes of Serb and Croat nationalists, caused immense population transfers and the forced movement of millions of people. In that sense, the Balkans can



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The Independent Children of War appeal

The Independent's Children of lions separated by war. One ten War appeal begins today and have chosen four charities we their work covers many aspects of the lives of children in former-Yugoslavia.

Readers are invited to send donations to any one of the agencies, or a mixture of them. To ensure the four charities receive the money as soon as possible we are asking readers to write cheques individually to

Save The Children

Save the Children's main effort in the former Yugoslavia is focused on children who have been separated from their parents. In 1993 the charity set up an assistance programme in Serbia/Montenegro (rump Yu-goslavia) to work with these unaccompanied children. At th moment, SCF is tending 2,600 such children, most of whom have not seen their parents for

more than three years. The charity also counsels traumatised children. Longterm separation can cause a child to go through stages of bereavement without the loss, says David Wright, the agency's Central and Eastern Europe Divison Director.

So far Save the Children has spent £300,000 on the programme; a further £200,000 will be needed for 1996 when it starts a similar scheme in Bosnia in January.

International Red Cross

The International Red Cross. supported by British Red Cross, has been involved in former Yuoslavia since the conflict began. It has the largest humanitarian programme in the region after "Losing the sanctuary of your

home, and your friends and toys. When your father is detained, has disappeared or died on the frontline ... We are often con-fronted with the haunting stare of bewildered children," explains Amanda Williamson.

Some children have developed "passive suicide syndrome", where the effects of lwar have led to losing their instinct to survive. At Kuplijensko camp, where

there are 4,500 children, there

is no heating and little fuel and there is an acute shortage of baby food and clothes. No one knows what will happen to these people in the long-term. Red Cross Messages have

year-old boy in Croatia has just discovered that his father is alive, although in prison, after eight months of silence.

Child Advocacy International

Child Advocacy International launched itself last week. Its immediate aim is to evacuate to Britain 100 accompanied sick children whom it has identified in Bosnia for medical treatment.

The first three will arrive next Tuesday, "These illnesses cannot wait, they are rare congenital conditions," says Dr David Southall, Chief Executive of Child Advocacy International. The three children arriving next week illustrate the severi



ty of the problem.Child Advocacy estimate that they can bring one child over for every £10,000 they raise. So far they have enough for 35.

War Child

War Child was founded by film makers Bill Leeson and David Wilson, "I think it was because we were both fathers of young children. Seeing kids suffer really hit us." says Mr Wilson.

It has helped children by bringing urgently needed diabetic equipment and insulin to central Bosnia and a mobile bakery to Mostar. More recently, it has brought prosthetics to children who lost limbs in bomb attacks in Tuzla. It now has plans to build a Music Centre in Mostar, a city damaged by heavy bombardment.

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"The sessions have offered children an escape from their existence," explains Mr Wilson. The building will cost an estimated £2.5m of which £630,000 proved a lifeline of hope for mil- has been donated.

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Walesa rallies in presidential cliff-hanger



Kwasniewski: More articulate and educated than the President, but his communist past is a serious liability

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Polish election: Solidarity locks horns with communism again

ADRIAN BRIDGE

Only two weeks ago, President Lech Walesa was being described by Poland's biggest-selling newspaper, Gazeta Wyborcza, as "unpredictable, irresponsible, unreformable and incompetent". Two weeks is a long time in Polish politics. As Poles prepare to vote in tomorrow's second and final round of the presidential election, the paper has changed it

"Despite it all - Walesa," it said earlier this week in a piece aimed at the many voters still undecided or simply confused. spectacular U-turn. The reason is simple: while 13 candidates contested the first round two through to the second-round run-off. And whereas many do not see Mr Walesa as the ideal

more appalled at the prospect of victory for his rival, Aleksander Kwasniewski, leader of the Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) and a former minister in the country's last truly Com-

munist government. As Jacek Kuron, third-placed candidate in the first round and the man originally backed by Gazeta Wyborcza, put it, the choice is between bad and bad". But when pushed, he conceded he was "fonder of Lech than of Aleksander".

Opinion polls indicate that a slender majority thinks likewise but tomorrow's contest promises to be close. Mr Walesa, whose first term was marred It may not have been the most by disputes with parliament ringing editorial endorsement of and many former allies, is genall time but it was still a pretty erally given leads of 2-3 percentage points but some polls point to a victory for his rival.

A key factor could be turn-out: weeks ago, only two went if too many do not to vote, it could play into the hands of Mr Kwasniewski, whose supporters are better organised.

For many, it is a rerun of the

battle between communism (and its successors), in the form of Mr Kwasniewski, and the Solidarity movement, once led by Mr Walesa, that toppled it.
Unlike the run-up to the first

round, both sides have resorted to dirty tricks. Mr Kwasniewski has been dogged by allegations that his wife en-riched herself in an insider-trading scandal and that in his declaration of outside interests as an MP he forgot to mention her big shareholdings. For the Walesa team, the

claims are indicative of underhand ways in which former communists have enriched themselves since formally losing power and are an example of the sort of practice their man is determined to stamp out.

But the President has been questioned about whether he paid tax on \$1m (£650,000) he received from Warner Brothers in 1989 for the rights to film his life. He has also been accused of using the secret services in his attempt to be re-elected.

and it has been impossible to gauge which has been hit hardest by the allegations. The effect has been to deflect attention from serious discus-

sion on policy differences. Not that they are that pronounced. Despite their differture. In television debates this week, both said they wanted to continue economic reform and see the country firmly estabropean Union and Nato. Mr Kwasniewski, the better

educated and more articulate. says he is best placed to mend divisions in society. While expressing respect for Mr Walesa's achievements as Solidarity leader, he likens the President to an ageing sportsman who keeps going on about a gold medal he won many years ago.

It is not the first time Mr Walesa has been consigned to the dustbin of history. And it will probably not be the last.



Walesa: Considered the best of a poor bunch but is a survivor who has been prematurely written off before

The sayings of Eech Walesa

Whatever the outcome of tomorrow's election, he will have something striking to say. The electrician-turned-president may be a man of limited education, but he is rarely at a loss for words. Typical Walesa-speak combines colour, coarseness, and simplicity. It also often defies the laws of logic, grammar - and good taste. This is the kind of language that Poles have come to know, love - and frequently to ridicule.

"I am both for - and against." The quintessential Walesa quote, covering his stand on wide range of issues.

"I will build democracy - democratically, semi-demo cratically and even undemocratically." Pledge to the nation. shortly after the toppling of communist rule in 1989.

"I won't do anything bad, and if I do, I will apologise." Taken from column in the satirical magazine Nie.

The country needs political balance; the government is its left leg, the parliament is its right leg and I am in between." On being elected President in December 1990.

"I will tell you directly in a roundabout way."

"At a certain moment I had to descend from the trees and stop making faces ... I have simply begun to calculate, to be flexible and smart." On making the switch from trade union: leader to politician.

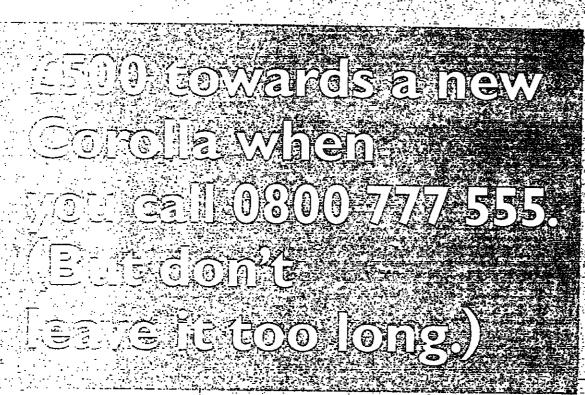
"I will not bring the army or the police on to the streets. I will not shoot at Poles, even if only because I have the Nobel Peace Prize." - response to wave of strikes.

"I know adversaries who must be respected and friends who are worse than enemies." Interview last month.

"My critics say that I should speak better ... that I should read the things they write for me. But I have another principle, gentlemen, and that is to get things done." - Shortly

The bed was so big that I couldn't find my wife in it", reference to being entertained by the Queen at Windsor Castle during state visit to Britain in 1991.

"My name is President." Freudian slip.

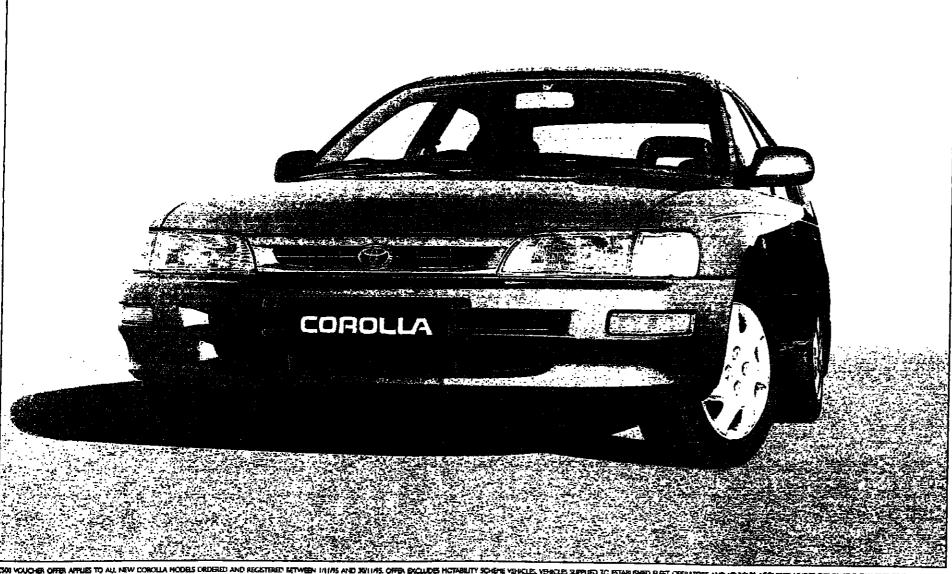


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Indians

locate

sick

hostages

More than four months ago, two

Britons, a German and an Amer-

ican set off with their wives and

ririfriends for a short holiday in

Their holiday turned into a

horror. Kidnapped by Islamic

gunmen, the men were dragged

over icy passes and threatened with death. The captors, Al-

Faran guerrillas, have shown they are not bluffing: a fifth

hostage, a Norwegian, had his

bad shape. The American, Don-

ald Hutchings, may have lost

both his feet to frostbite. One Briton, Keith Mangan, 33, from

London, is said be suffering from

exposure and injuries after a fall.

This week Al-Faran warned In-

dian officials that the second

Briton, Paul Wells, 23, a Not-

tingham student, was also ill. Efforts to secure their release

through negotiation, accord-

ing to the officials, may be

"gathering momentum". But the Indians' optimism has been

misplaced before. Al-Faran cut

The surviving hostages are in

head chopped off.

the Kashmir Himalayas.

TIM MCGIRK

DAVID USBORNE New York

Don King seemed at first to sag. Finally he rose from the defence table at which he had sat every working day for five weeks and joined his lawyer. Peter Fleming, in a long hug. From the courtroom he went first to the lavatory and then outside to a Lincoln limousine that carried him away to church.

You might have expected something different from Mr King, who is as famous for his bravura as for his electric-shock hairstyle, Minutes before, the jurors who had been weighing the US government's nine charges of insurance fraud against him were dismissed because they were hopelessly deadlocked.

A mistrial had been declared and Mr King was a free man. Free to confer with God and to return to being the world's most powerful - and most feared - promoter of professional boxing. Doubtless first on his agenda was the welfare of his choicest asset, "Iron Mike" Tyson, and the bout planned for March in Nevada between him and Frank Bruno.

But there were reasons for Mr King's uncharacteristic moderation. For one, he was surely exhausted by the last hours of the trial, which offered drama worthy of the Ali-Frazier "Thrilla in Manila" two decades ago. For another, he is not out of trouble yet. It is almost certain the government will seek a retrial in the new year.

He also faces a civil lawsuit from the Lloyd's of London syndicate whose insurance payout to him in 1992 was at the heart of the trial. Indicating that a suit would be launched, the lawyer for the syndicate, Donald Cayea, said vesterday that it "believes it has enough evidence to meet the civil standard" successfully to recoup all its money, and perhaps more.

The allegation was that Mr King padded a claim that arose from the planned June 1991 fight between Julio Cesar Chavez, the current World Boxing Council super-lightweight champion, and Harold Brazier that was cancelled after Chavez injured his nose during training. According to the government, Mr King doctored his original contract with Chavez to include a fictitious loss of \$350,000 in "non-refundable

training expenses" for Chavez. During his own testimony a week ago, Mr King all but admitted Lloyd's had been duped, agreeing that the figure of \$350,000 had been "made up". But Mr Fleming contended that Mr King had nothing to do with filing the claim because he was too busy with other matters, including preparing to fight pending charges of rape against Tyson, which were to send the former heavyweight champion to jail for three years.

Anyone familiar with Mr

King's reputation for sharp practice could easily find the charges against him believable. It was one of his former fighters, Tim Witherspoon, who once remarked that "Don's problem is that he would rather put a dishonest quarter into his pocket than an honest dollar". As they left court yesterday, however, several jurors said the government had failed to



Boxing clever: Don King leaving court in New York yesterday after a mistrial was declared in his insurance-fraud case

the belief of the defence, though it was never expressed formally in court, that Don

King who was the guilty party. In 1985 the government tried guenched since. The closing to take the normal route of ad-Some may also have shared and failed to convict him of tax hours of the trial were a bitter monishing them to try harder, noeuvre spawned headlines cvasion. Its appetite for the hide experience for the prosecutors. of Mr King, who in 1967 was jailed for manslaughter for prove that even if a crime had King had been brought to trial beating a man to death - he ties, Judge Lawrence McKenna court, asking that Judge Mcconceded defeate been committed that it was Mr only because he was Don King. served four years - has not been surprised everyone by declining Kenna be forced to keep deround, that is.

After receiving a note from jurors signalling their difficul-

deciding instead to dismiss them. In a last-ditch gambit, the prosecution went to an appeals

about "King Trial Chaos". But yesterday morning the prosecution gave up the fight and conceded defeat. Until the next

off all communication with Indian negotiators in Srinagar two months ago and only renewed contact several days ago. Al-Faran - one of many Mus-

lim guerrilla groups leading a five-year revolt against Indian rule in Kashmir – are demanding that India release up to 10 Kashmir militants, but İndia is refusing to let any of these "terrorists" go.
The guerrillas are thought to

have gathered an extra 50 gunmen. Indian officials say that during the communication gap, British, US and German diplomats were able to open "parallel lines" to Al-Faran to plead

for the hostages' release.

The officials, who know the hostages are being kept in villages near Ananthag, about 60 miles from Srinagar, say the guerrillas realise that no more political advantage can be gained by holding the four.

The hostages are so wellguarded that any rescue attempt, officials said, would seal their death, And the kidnappers' proximity to a town is seen as a sign that they want to keep the captives alive.

US medic who would not wear the blue beret goes on trial might of the US military ma-His gesture, the first of its Colonel Henry Hamilton, who the soldier's home town.

IMRE KARACS

An American soldier went on trial yesterday at a US army base in Germany for refusing to wear the UN blue beret, an offence which has rekindled debate at home about the country's global role.

Specialist Michael New, 22, an army medic, is accused of "refusing a legal order" but the defence and their conservative allies argue that it is US participation in peace-keeping missions that should be in the

kind in the US army, has become a cause célèbre, rallying patriotic right-wingers against President Bill Clinton's policy in former Yugoslavia.

Mr New refused to don the blue headgear and epaulettes on 10 October when his unit in southern Germany was ordered to join a UN peace-keeping mission in Macedonia.

sworn an oath of allegiance to the US, wearing another uni-form would be disloyal.

"It is not that he didn't want to go to war with his unit,"

heads Mr New's four-strong team of lawyers, told the military newspaper Stars and Stripes. "The issue is, is he going to go as an army soldier or as a minion of the UN?"

His "heroic" deed captured the imagination of the American right. In Texas, Mr New's home state, citizens staged demonstrations in support of He argued that as he had the medic. "Let's stop talking about Michael New as some selfish kid who didn't have the guts to go," said Mark Gilman; a Houston talk-show host who

"Michael New is a hero." The tide of protest rapidly swept into Washington. Last

month 43 Congressmen signed a letter to Mr Clinton demanding "a full legal and constitutional analysis of the justification of your orders placing members of the United command of foreign United Nations officers". Senior Republican Con-

gressmen have also introduced legislation to prohibit a president from ordering US troops addressed the rally in Couroe, to wear UN insignia.

Constitution, not to the UN Charter," said Tom DeLay, who tabled the motion.

Forcing soldiers to wear the uniform of the United Nations effectively asks the soldier to serve another power. No American soldier should be put in Michael New's position - forced States Armed Forces under the to choose allegiances between the United States and the United Nations.' In the murky world of peace-

keeping, with its deliberately fudged chain of command, such an interpretation would virtu-

"A soldier's oath is to the US ture role. With Washington poised to send thousands of troops into the former Yugoslavia, the proposed legislation could deal US diplomacy a devastating blow.

That did not appear to wor-Mr New, who stood impassively during yesterday's arraignment proceedings near the southern German city of Würzburg.

He did not enter a plea, and there will be a second hearing to set the date of the court-martial, expected to be held in January. The defence is relishing ally exclude the US from a fu- the prospect of taking on the back home in Texas.

chine. Mr New's lawyers have already sprung one surprise on the prosecution, calling General John Shalikashvili, Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, to the witness-box. The medic, who was de-

scribed by his commanding officer as a good soldier, does not have much to fear from the trial's outcome.

"We're not going to hang him, or anything like that," said a US army source. His most likely punishment is dishonourable discharge, and a hero's welcome

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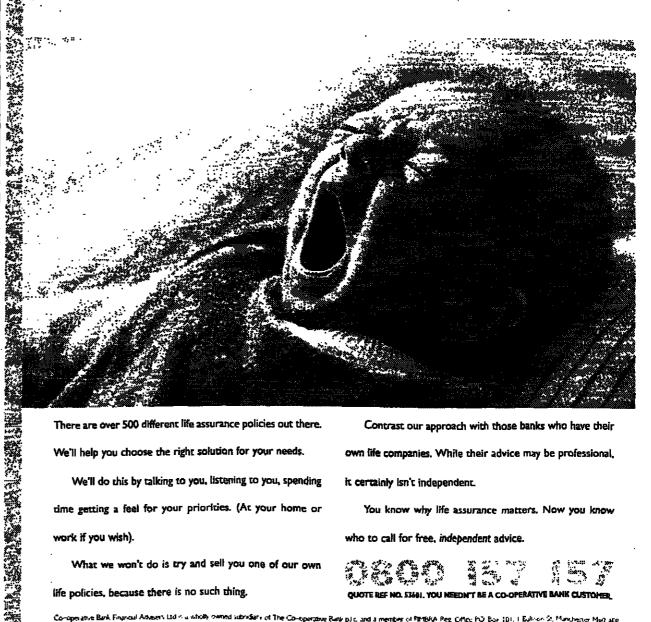
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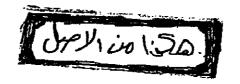
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Killing divided

BATURE THOMPSON

An air force flight-lieutepant was out shopping with his wife in Ikeja, a suburb of Ligos, when he got into a discussion with other shoppers about the hanging of Kenule Berson Saro-Wiwa, the writer and Dgo-ni minority-rights activist. The officer saw nothing wrong with the execution, nor was he impressed by the international

outcry it had generated. The other shoppers engaged him in a shouting match. He decided to leave for home bit was trailed by men who sprang on him and forced him into the boot of a car, leaving his wife stranded. He was dumped the next morning a few yards from his home, bleeding profusely and in severe shock.

The hanging of Sajo-Wiwa has dramatised the mest obvious division in Nigerif today which is not tribal, religious or regional, but a split between those in uniform and those who are not.

The alienation of the military from the civilian population entered an acute place in June 1993 when General Ibrahim Babangida annullel an election viewed as the freest and fairest in Nigeria's history. It grew worse with the rife to power of General Sani Ab/cha on 17 November 1993, osjensibly to save the nation from disintegration, in fact to resolv an unnecessary

crisis engineered by Nigeria's power-hungrygenerals.
But the killing of Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni activists, after appeals from home and abroad for clemency, has split the ruling military circle itself. Some senior officers said the uproar over the hanging showed the government cannot act indefinitely in contravention to the norms of civilsed societies. They said it was aclear sign the military ought no to remain in government muci longer.

For the moment, these voices are drowned by a chorus of chubby-cheeked oldiers drawn by the power any perquisites of a government accountable only to itself. Most such officers do not accept a pipblem exists in Nigeria and car: little about the cy towards those, like Saro-

Wiwa, who are perceived as enemies of the state.

Not all members of the Provisional Ruling Council (PRC) went along with the decision to hurry Saro-Wiwa and the others to their deaths. A few argued against the sentences on the grounds that the Ogonis already nursed feelings of persecution and the international community would be offended. They said the country could not afford more bloodshed. But, they were outnumbered by hawkish

members of the council. A similar plea in the case of the former head of state, Olusegun Obasanjo, and 40 others accused of plotting the overthrow of the Abacha regime, was upheld. As in Saro-Wiwa's case, there was a campaign for clemency from the international community.

That gesture, according to government officials, was party responsible for the regime's intransigence this time around. The government did not wish to be categorised as weak and not in control. There had been a groundswell of opinion among junior officers who believed Obasanjo and other alleged coup-plotters should have been shot. They were still smarting from their rebuff when the Saro-Wiwa trial came along. A majority on the PRC felt it must take a hard line this time, or alienate the middle ranks of the military.

But the virulence and speed of the international community's reaction shocked the regime. While some officials issued threats against the Commonwealth for suspending Nigeria, and against the West for withdrawing its envoys, General Abacha's spokesman issued a mild statement that expressed only sadness, and which said the government would announce its position in due course. The statement, acknowledged as the regime's authentic position, confirmed official hints that the government had been sobered by the worldwide backlash.

The government's worries have been compounded by the fact that it has inadvertently reunited Nigeria's disorganised opposition. It has also widened tribes in the country and the

minority groups which produce most of Nigeria's oil. "When the coup plotters,

who came from the majority tribes, were convicted, pleas for their sentences to be commuted were promptly heed-ed," a minority rights activist said. "But now they have damned everyone and hanged minority-rights campaigners. Who says this nation is one?"

Although the government is in a state of shock, it is looking for escape routes. One is exnected to be an announcement of the start of the transition to civilian rule, which General Abacha announced on 1 October. Since then nothing has been done and few people believe it will come to anything.

If they are wrong, credit will go in part to Saro-Wiwa. In death he has put the regime under greater pressure than at any other time in its history.

Bature Thompson is the pseu donym of a senior Nigerian



Outrage: Archbishop Desmond Tutu hands in a letter to the Nigerian embassy in Johannesburg protesting against the executions

IN BRIEF

Extradition day set for Priebke

Buenos Aires — Erich Priebke, who faces charges of participating in a Secont World War massacre in Italy, will be extradited to Rome on Nonday. The 82-year-old former SS captain has admitted paracipating in the 1944 massacre of 335 civilians in the Ardeatine Laves outside Rome, a reprisal for the deaths of 32 German soldiers in an ambush.

Nuclear test vote upsets Chirac

Paris - Fance cancelled a summit with Italy in a fit of pique after Rom: joined most European Union nations in a UN vote deploring French and Chinese nuclear weapons testing. President Jaccues Chirac had been due to meet the Italian Prime Minister, Lamberto Dini, in Naples next weekend. Reuter

Greek inmates lynch foreign prisoner

Athens - Inmates lynched then burned a foreign convict as the Greek authorities failed to regain control of the nation's largest prison fo: a third day. The unidentified convict was the fourth to die since prisoners armed with knives and chibs took control of Korydellos prison on Tuesday night.

Flags for royal couple 📈 Copenhagen — Thousands of flag-waving Danes braved driving snow to catch a glimpse of Prince Joachim and Alexandra Manley. a Hong long-based economist who has a British father, Austrian mother and a Chinese grandmother, as they paraded through the Danish capital before their wedding oday. It is Denmark's first royal wedding since Joachim's mother, Queen Margrethe, narried a French count, Henri de Laborde de Montpezat, in 1967. Reuter

1113



Israelis to pull out of Bethlehem early

Jerusalem - Israeli soldiers will leave the town of Bethle hem on 18 December, three days earlier than planned, to allow preparations for the first Christmas under Arab control in 28 years, Palestinian officials said. Israel is redeploying troops from six West Bank towns and part of Hebron under an agree-ment signed with the Palestine Liberation Organisation in September to extend Palestinian self-rule from Gaza and

Dole tipped to win test of strength

Orlando - The Senate Majority Leader, Bob Dole, is favoured to win a Republican presidential "straw poll" in Florida this weekend, an important test of strength and organisation in the 1996 campaign. Mr Dole, who leads the other nine Republican candidates by a wide margin, delayed plans to go to Florida yesterday because of the budget crisis in Washington.

Reuter

Rushdie locked up in Chile

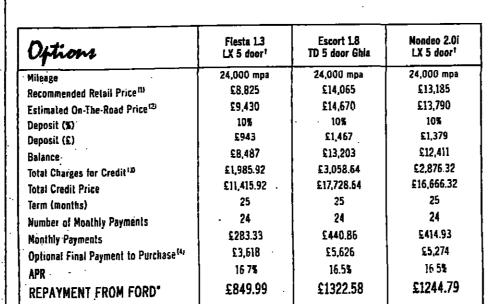
Santiago - Security-conscious Chilean authorities kept the British writer Salman Rushdie locked up in a Santiago apartment yeswriter Salman Rushole locked up in a Santiago apartment yes-terday after cancelling his sole scheduled public appearance at a book fair in the city. "He has had no chance to speak with the news media or with the Chilean people," said his local publish-

Earthling lapse costs cosmonauts' votes Moscow — Two cosmonauts orbiting the earth until next February aboard the Mir spare station will not take part in Russia's tuary appeared the twin space earthlings forgot to send them any election next month because earthlings forgot to send them any ballot papets on the last Russian supply rocket or the Space Shut-



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Mary Waldegrave

grave at any stage of her life

would doubt being in the pres-

ence of an unusual character.

The looks, the limp, the enchanting smile and the ready

laughter were striking and rare.

Day 1909, the eldest of four daughters of Lt-Col Arthur Grenfell by his second wife, Hil-

da, daughter of General Sir

Neville Lyttelton. She competed easily with the demands of a beautiful mother and of her

three sisters, Mrs Patrick

Lort-Phillips, Dame Frances

Campbell-Preston, and the late

Lady Ballantrae. The limp she

owed to an attack of polio-

myelitis in her teens. She nev-

er allowed it to handicap her,

though it gave her considerable

scholarship to Somerville Col-

lege, Oxford, from St Paul's

Girls' School, but disappointed her tutors by cutting short her academic career in order to

marry Geoffrey Waldegrave in

1930, six years before he in-

herited the title of Earl Walde-

grave. She gave him five

daughters, and in the Second

World War, when their house in

Somerset was requisitioned for

troops, made the difficult deci-

sion to take them to Canada.

Then she added a son to their

family, James, the present Earl,

in 1940 and after their return to

England, in 1946, a second son,

William, the Tory minister. She

was happy to end her exile be-

fore the war ended, and to re-turn to Chewton, not without

ignorant opposition from those

who took a different view of

what patriotic duty required of

a mother of young children in

wartime emergency.
The rest of her life was spent

at Chewton, the centre of a rich

family life and the support of

many good causes. But she

found time to put her strong in-

tellect and historical training to

producing from the Waldegrave

archives a history of the family

which has unfortunately not

The successes of her husband

found a publisher.

pain in her last years. In 1928 she won a history

She was born on Christmas

obituaries/gazette

Gwyn A. Williams

The Welsh historian Gwyn A. Williams saw himself as "a people's remembrancer": by which he meant that he chose as his professional role the elucidation and celebration of the Radicalism which he took to be the essence of the Welsh political

He was unusual among academic historians in that, although meticulous in his scholarship and widely read in the history of Marxism in Europe, he was able to infuse his writing with a passionate concern about the fate of his own people and to demonstrate, often in a most vivid manner, that Wales - particularly South Wales - was the very anvil on which the progress of the urban working class had first been hammered out.

But he was not content with scholarly exegesis that was not backed up by political engagement. He tried to influence public opinion by presenting the history of Wales in new, sometimes startlingly dramatic ways. whether in his lectures and books or in the many television programmes he made, in both Welsh and English, during the latter part of his career. In all his work the call to action was explicit and unequivocal: the capitalist, centralist, British State (and the English hegemony) had to be undone if the national community of Wales was to survive and prosper.

Although he began, during the heady days of the civil war in Spain, as a Young Communist, and remained an unrepentant Socialist for the rest of his life. Gwyn Alf (as he was known, to distinguish him from several other eminent Welshmen with similar names) was for many years an uneasy member of the Labour Party but eventually found his political home on the left wing of Plaid Cymru. For a while he was a leading member of the editorial board of the magazine Radical Wales, and served on the party's Executive Committee. He was, however, never persuaded to stand as a Plaid Cymru candidate, although his oratory (in which he used a slight stammer to excellent effect) made him one of the most effective and

popular public speakers in Wales.

Born in the iron town of Dowlais, on the hill above Merthyr Tydfil, the cradle of the Industrial Revolution in Wales. Williams read History at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, and was appoint-ed Lecturer in Welsh History there in 1954. He was such an entertaining speaker that students from other departments, myself among them, regularly sat in on his lectures, for the sheer excitement of hearing what he had to say about the industrial Wales in which we had grown up. after which we adjourned to the nearest pub, where he would continue to hold forth with the most brilliant dialectic that any of us had encountered.

Williams left Aberystwyth to take up a Readership at York and from 1965 to 1974 he held the Chair of History at that university. His doctoral thesis had been published as Medieval London: from commune to capital, in 1963, and was followed five years later by Artisans and Sans-Culottes, about popular movements in France and Britain during the French Revolution. His European perspective was grounded in these early works and others: Proletarian Order (1975), a study of Antonio Gramsci and the history of Communism in Italy, and Gova and the Impossible Revolution (1976), as part of the research for which he learnt Italian and Spanish respectively. His wife, Maria, belonged to the community of steelworkers from northern Spain who were

long established in Dowlais. But it was with his books on specifically Welsh subjects that Williams made most impact as an historian. Returning to Wales in 1974 as Professor of History at University College, Cardiff, he set about re-interpreting key episodes in Welsh history. His The Menhyt Rising (1978) was the first full account of the workers' revolt of 1831 and the execution of Dic Penderyn, one of the earliest martyrs of the Welsh working class.

In Madoc: the making of a myth (1979) he examined the cyidence for the discovery of America by Prince Madog ab

Owain Gwynedd in about 1170 and, in particular, for the existence of a tribe of Indians, known as Mandans, who were said to be his descendants. It was the Welshman John Dee, the magus of his age, who had first claimed the New World for the

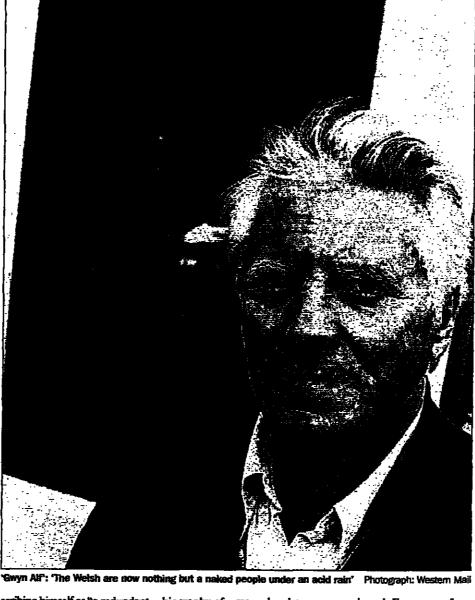
Queen of England on the basis of this persistent yarn, which was developed by Robert Southey in his long poem Madoc in 1805. Williams debunked the myth as an imperialist fiction, but showed how it had fired the imagination of Welsh Radicals for centuries thereafter and was comparable, in its patriotic potency, with the English myth of the free-born Saxon living under the Norman yoke. He returned to these themes

and introduced others in The Welsh in their History (1982), a collection of essays which argues for the opening up of new discourses, and in When was Wales? (1985), perhaps his most influential work. The latter was written while he was making the television series The Dragon has Two Tongues, in which he appeared in bruising confrontation with the rather more cautious Wynford Vaughan-Thomas, the question of who won this verbal punch-up, and on how many points, is still hotly debated in Wales and one by which the sheep and the goats can be separated.

The book concludes with some typically trenchant observations, not unaffected by the stress of Thatcherism:

The Welsh as a people have lived by making and remaking themselves in generation after generation, usually against the odds, usually within a British context. Wales is an artefact which the Welsh produce. If they want to. It requires an act of choice. To-day, it looks as though that choice will be more difficult than ever before. There are roads out towards survival as a people, but they are long and hard and demand sacrifice and are at present unthinkable to most of the Welsh . . . Some kind of human society, though God knows what kind, will no doubt go on occupying these two western peninsulas of Britain, but that people, who are my people and no mean people, who have for a mil-lennium and a half lived in them as Welsh people, are now nothing but a naked people under an acid rain.

In 1983 Williams took early retirement from his Chair at Cardiff (he was fond of de-



scribing himself as "a redundant historian") and began making films with Teliesyn, one of the independent companies on which the reputation of Welsh broadcasting now largely depends. He moved from Cardiff to the village of Drefach Felindre, in Dyfed, where he shared a home with Sian Lloyd. Among the people about whom he made films were James Gillray, Sylvia Pankhurst, Pushkin, Mary Shelley, and the Welsh writers Saunders Lewis, T.E. Nicholas

and Iolo Morganwg. His last book, Excalibur: the search for Arthur (1994), was a clear-eyed account of a subject which has confused so many lesser historians, and his last film, Gwyn Alf - a People's Remembiography of a man who chose the hard road to an understanding of his life and times.

The image of Gwyn Williams which remains in the memory contains his pugnacious but engaging manner and the impish wit with which he expounded his theses about Wales and the Welsh. A small man, with a shock of white hair and the Iberian features that seem so typical of the valleys of south-east. Wales, he developed a quirky but compulsive television style that had all the immediacy and eloquence of his writing, using the medium unapologetically to put over what he thought the Weish people needed to know about their own past.

But I am pretty sure that it brancer (1995) a moving auto- is his books that he will be November 1995.

remembered. For many of my generation, who were under-graduates in the late Fifties and early Sixties, and who par-ticipated with him in the political campaigns of the Seventies and Eighties, he shares a place with that other great Welsh Socialist, Raymond Williams, as an important influence on the way we now think about our country and people.

and family could not spoil Meic Stephens Mary: she remained serene and

Gwyn Alfred Williams, historian. born Dowlais, Menhyr Tydfil 30 September 1925; Professor of History, York University 1965-74: Professor of History, University College, Cardiff 1974-83; married 1950 Maria Fernandez (one son); died Drefach Felindre, Dyfed 16



delightful, the confidante, comfort and inspiration of all who came to her. She retained to the end her inimitable sense of humour and her strong Christian faith.

John Stephenson

When Wilmarth Sheldon Lewis, the great Horace Walpole collector, went British country house visiting, his aims were utterly ruthless, writes James Fergusson. He was going, by a playful variety of New England charm, outright cheek and airmail bombardment, to cajole the "private owner" (the most difficult nut, he said, to crack) to part with every item possible connected with his favourite 18th-century author. The

No one who met Mary Walde- Mary Waldegrave's credit that, unlike so many casual hebs to great collections, she armed herself for the fray by making herself as much of an expert on her husband's family history as Lefty" Lewis was himself. She might equally have de-voted herself to her own fami-

ly history – her father was one of nine distinguished Grenfell brothers (cousins of the poet Julian), two of whom, the twins Francis, who won the VC, and Riversdale, were killed in the First World War and memorialised in a book by John Buchan; while her mother's family were the political and cricketing Lytteltons - Mrs John Buchan was a cousin and Mrs W.E. Gladstone her greatgreat-aunt. But instead she set about organising the Waldegrave archives at Chewton, which go back to pre-Tudor times and the beginnings of the family's tradition of royal and public service, and made the telling of their story an act of devoit scholarship.

The most sensational period of the archives, and the one. which exercised Lewis, was the bundred years spanning the reigns of the second to the eighth earls and including in Maria Valpole, Horace's favourite niece, and the muchmarried Frances Braham two notable earlier countesses. On the death of Horace Walpole in 1797, he left Strawberry Hill, his Gothic extravaganza in Twickenham, and its collections to his niece's descendants. In 1842 its contents were largely dispersed. in a sale that took over 32 days - 16 days for the library alone.

Lewis was an extraordinary scholar collector. Of the 6,500 titles in Walpele's library, he accounted world-wide for 3,300. and personally acquired 80 per cent of those. He elicited by fair means or foul - including from the Waldegraves, for Geoffrey was a softer touch than Mary the majority joi the surviving manuscripts, and in 1933 set in train the massive Yale Edition of Walpole's correspondence. In an obituary on his death in 1979, Mary Waldegave affectionatehy saluted his "banditry", re-calling his "nenacing" letters from the Thirlies in the run-up to the war. "I was soon obvi-ous that Lefy wanted everything we possessed in the way of Walpoliata," she wrote. Books, prints pictures, manuscripts, pulls rom the Strawberry Hill press, miniatures, snuff boxes (o one particular snuff box), the lot."

They came, centually, Lefty and his wife Amie Burr, "like merciful dentits", and took two cases of papers, very reluctantly leaving the Waldenalia": the Lewis daterial is now at Yale, while the est through Mary Waldegrave; able custodianship, remains more accessibly for English scholars with the Waldegrave family.

William Waldelrave contends that if his mother had not settled for the role of wife and materfamilias she yould have been a professional listorian or academic administrator. Her finished work was lever published in her lifetim but he intends that it should now be published, in pirt as her memorial

Mary Hermione GreWell: born London 25 December 1909; married 1930 Geoffry Walde-grave (succeeded 195 as 12th Earl Waldegrave, died 1995; two sons, five daughters); ded Chew-Waldegraves at Chewton were ton Mendip, Someset 13 an obvious target, and it is to November 1995.

Rabbi Jacob Rader Marcus

Jacob Rader Marcus was the ican Jewish history for most of this century. A week ago, I received a letter from him intended to raise funds for the American Jewish Archives, which he founded in 1947. In his typical, lively and politically incorrect style, it commenced: People do ask me how I account for my longevity, such as it is. The secret is that I never smoked, drank or ran around with girls until I was 12 years of age; "I am kind to women, children, worms / I speak of God in the highest terms." In other words. I am an Anglo-Saxon Hebrew, a Re-form Jew who believes in the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the neighbourhood of Cincinnati. I learned to discipline my-self. The only fiction I now read is my own historical writings. I am alem and find it easy to remember many things that never happened.

He was unjust to himself in that appraisal. There was no other historian in the United States who paid as much at-



tention to the minutiae found in the correspondence, archives. and other records of Jewish organisations and institutions. Marcus went to the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati as a 15-year-old student in 1911, and started publishing his work in 1916. After his military service, and a Berlin PhD (magna

many, he began teaching at the Hebrew Union College in 1920, and continued to teach there until last week. The first phase of his work saw him examine European history with rare perception, and The Jew in the Medieval World (1938) and Communal Sick Care in the German Ghetto (1947) are still valuable texts. An earlier book on German Jewish history, The Rise and Destiny of the German Jew (1934), was flawed by his expressed hope that Hitler would be a passing phenomenon, but gave a sound account of the development of German Jewry.

Once Marcus began to concentrate on the American Jewish scene, he created a unique body of work which made the American Jewish Archives the true centre of American Jewish historiography. In 1956, he also established the American Jew-

three-volume collection Memoirs of American Jews: 1775-1865 (1955), his American Jewry: documents, 18th century (1958) and his four-volume United States Jewry 1776-1985 (1989-93) are evidence of a questing mind and an enormous capacity for work. Jacob Rader Marcus was a

gregarious, fun-loving rabbi and teacher. As President of the CCAR (Central Conference of American Rabbis) from 1949 he would wander around the Conference and inquire among the rabbis, "Where are you located now?" Then he might place his hand on the rabbi's shoulder and tell him. "I got you that job, my boy!" Quite often, it was true.

He was a great politician, and gave practical advice to the graduates of the college, who looked upon him as a father figure. His favourite student, Bertram Korn (the historian of

Words like "warmth", "geniality". "honour", "dignity", remain words and cannot convey the expericace of being with the man, shar-ing his thoughts, knowing his idealism, receiving his help, and learning... not only of Jewish his-tory, but also of the human situation and the role of man in God's world.

Marcus was the typical

American Jew he chronicled. Born in Pennsylvania, he found his first private school in the Carnegie Library in the town of Homestead, and his Orthodox Hebrew school across the Monongahela river in Pittsburgh. Aspects of traditionalism remained part of his life, as the history teacher of the Reform rabbinate. It is intriguing that his first task at the Hebrew Union College was as instructor in Bible and Rabbinics. The roots of his tradition helped him to define the American Jew within all of the cultural influences

cum laude) on the trade patterns ish Periodical Center, vital to Jewish life in the American of that environment, even when entity, has always been one, and will always remain one . . . not completely subject to his gen-eral environment". That, too, describes Jacob Rader Marcus, who was a unique teacher and a great human soul.

Albert H. Friedlander

Jacob Rader Marcus, historian: born Connellsville, Pennsylvania 5 March 1896; assistant professor of Jewish History, Hebrew Union College 1926-29, associate professor 1929-34, Professor of Jewish History 1934-59, Adolph S. Ochs Professor of American Jewish History 1929-65, Milton and Hattle Kut: Distinguished Service Professor of American History 1965-95; Director, American Jewish Archives, 1947-95; married 1925 Antoinette Brody (died 1953; one daughter deceased); died Cincinnati 14 November 1995.

Births, Marriages & Deaths

CAWTE: To Christopher and Lindsay (nee Rodgers), a beautiful daughter, Elena Rose, on 20 October.

DEATHS

LEE-BARBER: Rear-Admiral John Lee-Barber CB DSO (and Bar), Peacefully in Hampshire, on 14 No-tember 1995, aged 40, Bedwed father of Victoria and Sarah, Private cremation. Memorial Service at St Mary the Virgin Church, Wivenhoe, Essex, on Monday 15 January 1996 at 2pm. MALLINSON: Sir William, On Friday MALLINSON: Sir William, On Friday
17 November 1995, at the Royal
Hospital, Putney, aged 53 years,
Much-lowed father of James and
Kote, Funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Bembridge, Isle of Wight
on Thursday 23 November 1995 at
2.30pm, Family flowers only but donations if desired to the RNLL.
Memorial service in London at a
later date.

For Cazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS, please telephone 0171-293 2011 or fax 0171-293 2010.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ROTAL ENGRAGENENTED TO The Buke of bark, Colonal-The, The Sufford-sare Regimen (The Prince of Wales's Feeder via it he Sol Colonacer) Bartailon at beyingering. Salton-Meri, Prince Endomed today attends the mattage car more of Prince Josebin and Mics Astronama Mandy, in the chapel of Frederich Song Calle, in Hills rod, Praimark, The Princess Rog-ic-He and Hills rod, Praimark, The Princess Rog-al, Patron Sangish Rogis Union today attends the Socilland's Western Samos Immational Rugbs, March of Matrachedd, Edinburgh.

Changing of the Guard TOBAY The II usefuld Catalry Mounted Reg-inten mounts the Queen's Life Guard in Horse Guards, Ham, 7 Company Coldstream Guards mounts the Outen's Guard, in Backingham

Birthdays TODAY: The Right Rev Dewi

Bridges, Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. 62: Mr John Camden, president, RMC Group, 70; Sir Kenneth Clucas, former senior civil servant. 74: Mr Anthony Coombs MP, 43; Protessor Charles Cowan, former Chairman of Convecation, London University, 72; Lord Cullen, a Senator of the College of Justice in Scot-land, 60; The Rev Vivian Green, former Rector, Lincoln College, Oxford, 80: Mr David Hemmings, actor and director, 54; Mr John Hosier, former Director, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, 67; Sir Gordon Jewkes, former diplomat, 64; Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, chairman of St Dunstan's (for Service War Blinded), 72; Lord Mackenzie-Stuart, former European Court judge, 71; Mr Graham Parker. singer and songwriter, 45; Mr Alan Pryce-Jones, writer and critic, 87; Pro-fessor John Quayle, former Vice-Chancellor, Bath University, 69; Mr Brian Quinn, executive director, Bank of England, 59; Mr Alan Shep-ard, astronaut, 72; Sir Murray Stuart-Smith, a Lord Justice of Apiress, 56: Sir Tasker Watkins VC, a former Lord Justice of Appeal, and former Deputy Chief Justice of Eng-land, 77: Miss Kim Wilde, singer, 35.

TOMORROW: Mr Stephen Baldock, High Master, St Paul's School. M Raymond Blanc, restaurateur. 46; Miss Maeve Fort, Ambassador to the Lebanon, 55; Miss Jodle Foster, actress, 33; Miss Kathleen Halpin, former Chief Administrator, WRVS, 92; Baroness Jeger, former MP, 80; Professor James Johnson, geographer, 65; Mr Calvin Klein, fashion de-signer, 53; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin, former Chief of the Naval Staff 75; Mr David Lloyd-Jones, opera director, 61: Air Marshal Sir Kenneth Porter, 83; Miss Kathleen Quinlan, actress, 41; Miss

Auriol Sinclair, National Hunt trainer, 77; Dr Robert C. Smith, Vice-Chancellor, Kingston University. 60; Mr Dennis Taylor, snooker champion, 46; The Ven Michael Till, Archdeacon of Canterbury, 60; Dame Margaret Turner-Warwick, former President, Royal College of Physicians, 71; Mr Mike Vernon record-producer, 51.

Anniversaries TODAY: Vespasian, Roman Emper-or, AD 9: Louis-Jacques Mandé Daguerre, photographic pioneer, 1789; Ignaz Jan Paderewski, pianist, com-poser and statesman, 1860; George Horace Gallup, public opinion poli-ster, 1901. Deaths: Reginald, Cardi-nal Pole. 1558: Dr Thomas Frognall Dibdin, bibliographer, 1847; Marcel Proust, writer, 1922: Mervyn Lau-Proust, writer, 1922: Mervyn Lau-rence Peake, writer and artist, 1968. On this day: William Caxton issued his first dated, printed book, 1477: St Peter's, Rome, was consecrated, 1626: the first Mickey Mouse cartoon, Steamboat Willie, was shown, 1928; fire broke out at King's Cross un-derground station, and 30 people died, 1987; Terry Waite, held hostage in Beirut for four years, was released, 1991. Today is the Feast Day of St Mawes or Maudez, St Odo of Clury and St Romanus of Antioch.

TOMORROW: Births: Charles L. King of England and Scotland, 1600; James Abram Garfield, 20th US president, 1831; Indira Gandhi, stateswomen, 1917. Deaths: Nicolas Poussin, painter, 1665; Claude Nicolas Ledoux, architect, 1806; Franz Peter Schubert, composer, 1828. On this day: Pope Paul III issued a Bull to summon the Council of Trent, 1544; President Lincoln delivered his speech at Gettysburg, 1863; the first eral conference of Unesco was held in Paris, 1946; the lunar modthe from the US spacecraft.4pollo 12 touched down on the Moon, 1969; in

Paris, the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces was signed between Nato and members of the Warsaw Pact, thus ending the "cold war", 1990. Tomorrow is the Feast Day of St Barlaam of Antioch, St Ermenburga and St Nerses I.

Lectures TODAY

National Gallery: James Heard, "17th-century Rome (iii): the Carracci and the Academy. Domme, Quo Vadis?", 12pm. Tate Gallery: Sarah O'Brien Twohig "A British View; places and faces (i)

British Museum: Simon James "Emperors of Rome". 1.15pm. TOMORROW

Tate Gallery: Sarah O'Brien Twohig
"A British View: places and faces (ii)" National Portrait Gallery: Susar Morris and Alfred Bradley, "Lucy, Lady Duff Gordon (1821-69): letters from Egypt", 3pm.

Dinners

rable Artillery Company Major A.H.S. Gabb. Squadron Commander, Il Squadron, Honourable
Artillery Company, presided over the
annual dinner beld yesterday exemin
in the Long Room at Armoury
House, London EC1. Col C.H. Martin was the principal guest.

Royal College

of Radiologists Professor Charles Joslin delivered the Royal College of Radiologists (10th Annual Skinner Lecture Justerday evening at the Royal College of Physicians, London NW1. Sir Don ald Harrison was earlier admitted to Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Radiologists.

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When the history of the Church in the second half of the 20th century is written, the Faith in the City epic will be one of its most exciting features. It will be judged that Britain in the early Eighties was enduring a brutal readjustment. What history might not record is the pain and bewilderment suffered then by Britain's poor-est urban communities. The Labour Party was in what looked like a Trotskyite death spasm. When the pain continued after the 1983 general election, the Church of England took its courage and its cash in both hands. It produced the Faith in the City report, and challenged Church and Nation to respond to the needs of the poor.

Ten years later, the project continues. Many poor parishes have been significantly renewed, made places of welcome; £20m has been raised for urban activity; above all, the project has engaged bravely with the structures of the Church of England, making urban poverty a concern of the whole body, not just its urban enthusiasts.

The Anglicans have also, sensibly, avoided excessive ecumenising of the project. This approach has marginalised the Methodists a hit, and made us do our own things better. More significantly, it has upstaged the Roman Catholics, who still have the really strong presence in Britain's cities. And I wish more credit had been given to one ecumenical body. Church Action on Poverty. But these are quibbles. A great, historic note has been struck. When it mattered the Church of England spoke out. This splendid achieve-

ment does raise questions, however. Let me introduce Ivor Seddon, a businessman from Salford. We met there last week. He makes curtain fittings, and faith reason

Places of desire, ambition and hope

Ten years ago the Church of England in its report Faith in the City challenged Britain to respond to the needs of the urban poor. The Rev John Kennedy assesses progress.

apan. He started out on a market stall 20 years ago. He now employs a hundred people and turns over £5m a year. He knows the whole world, but likes it best in Britain. He admires the Japanese, but reckons British commerce is more efficient, and Britain is a nicer place to live. Now the Faith in the City project has produced a thousand pages of text. Lois of analysis and stories. But Ivor isn't there. nor anybody much like him. The project was far too pessimistic about the prospects for medium-sized firms like Ivor's, and placed excessive hope in community

activity and public institutions. Many urban authorities have worked hard to turn cities into good business locutions and generators of jobs. Cardiff, Bolton, Glasgow, Salford and Leeds look a lot better now. There is a good rule of thumb about cities: if you have created an environment in which business cannot thrive, then you change the environment. That means beginning to renew it as soon week. He makes curtain fittings, and as it stops being profitable, rather than let-sells them around the world, especially in ting the dereliction pile up over genera-

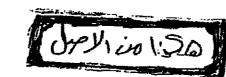
tions, as we have done in Britain. It also means avoiding huge single mitakes, like the construction of job-free zenes in

the form of the modern outer-city estates. This is where the thrust of Faith in the City was too light on politics rather than too heavy. For it is the outer-city estates that created the least tractable urbar problems, especially in their exclusion of people from access to the labour market. The churches' silence on the awfulness of Labour city government there didits bit

to make Labour unelectable.

There is of course something deeper at work here than political prejudice and parochial myopia. Peter Sedgewick has edited a theological collection to celebrate the 10th anniversary, called God in the City (Mowbray, £12.95). He highlights the prob-lem with a quotation from the fourthcentury preacher St John Chrysoston: Thus does the devil stenlthily set fire to the kity. It is not a matter of running up ladders and using petroleum, puch or tar, he uses things far more permicious: lewd sights, base speech, degraced music and songs full of all kinds of wickedness.

That kind of "fear in the city" contin ues. The city has always been profane, hard to manage. Through two decades in east and west London, I sometimes feared that the churches were happier managing the city's misery than engaging with its vital-ity. The Church of England has earned its place in history through its eloquent protest against the injustices of contem-porary city life. But Christians have yet to grasp the nature of cities. We find it hard to accept them as places of infinitely vary-ing and barely manageable desire, ambition and hope. It is safer to stay with misery. but that is not the whole of what God has given us in these strange places.



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Children love her books, adults

despise them. Now buyers are

lining up for Enid Blyton's

copyright, worth at least

£10m. Robert Winder

assesses the puzzling

appeal of these

classics

When news came through this week that copyright in Enid Blyton's work had been put up for sale for "at least £10m", most people were startled. It is well known that the children's book industry has become, thanks to the brave new worlds of video, computer technology and merchandising, a vast and lucrative one - 26 million videos of The Lion King have been sold in America alone, and Thomas the Tank Engine has become a £500m-a-year industry. But Enid Blyton? Her books belong to another time - a goodie-goodie world in which the policemen are all jolly friendly and villains have bad manners, and children prefer a run across the hills with ginger beer and apple pie to Ecstasy tablets and murdermayhem video games. Not everyone, we might think, would want to bet on this seemingly twee formula that continues to enchant modern

The copyright in Bly-ton is held by Darrell Waters Ltd, whose major shareholder is the Blyton family. Enid's two daughters, Gillian and Imogen, began working for their mother when they were young: they would read proofs and be paid a penny for every mistake they found. Now they find themselves presiding over a multimillion-pound sale. It was provoked by an unsolicited offer for the company that was tempting enough to make them think about selling The centenary of Enid Blyton's birth falls in 1997, and the company lacks the resources to exploit this commercial opportunity. The announcement of the sale was designed to alert interested parties. "We are already getting quite a good response," said Keith Tilson of Price Waterhouse, which is handling the deal. Publishing companies, media companies and toy companies are all inter-Negotiations are expected to take several

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Darrell Waters was set up by Enid Blyton in 1950 -she aiready had dealings with dozens of publishers. One of its first ventures was to buy a golf course overlooking Studland Bay in Dorset - Enid was a regular player - and it swiftly became a busy concern, handling a valuable set of publishing interests. Blyton was an imposing businesswoman. Despite paper shortages during cooking pots, while the boys the war, she insisted on conwhizz about with fishing-rods. tracts which promised a minimum first printing of 25,000 copies, and she also stipulated wide margins, large print and

roomy illustrations. But is she still a good buy? Enid Blyton has come in for some keen criticism: many are infuriated by the racism, sexism and class snobbery in her work. Some of the jibes can be seen plenty of servants who don't remains loved by readers. In a is Treasure Island.

Noddy's off to Treasure Island

as over-zealous - the attempt to change the name of "Big Ears" to "White Beard", for instance - but many of them have both force and justice. In the world of Nod, the golliwogs do live, embarrassing though it seems, under apartheid rule in their own ghetto - Gollytown (in Macdonald's 1991 edition, they were replaced by goblins and gremlins). And the racial assumptions in The River of Adventure are enough to make anyone blush. The local Syrians are swarthy, sycophantic swindlers who beat small boys. You can't read any of the books without noticing that the girls tend to be in charge of the

Blyton country is a boardingschool world where children have adventures in the hols. They snigger at the locals - in Wales, no one says anything except, "Look you". These chilabout "Cook" as if she was a somely for their birthright. vending machine. There are

need to be thanked, including "Mother". In The Six Bad Boys the hierarchy is swiftly established. "All four boys admired Bob and liked him, and because he was better dressed than they were, and came from a better home, they were proud to have him share their cellar." Certainly, Blyton was not herself the kind of mother who

got up early to make breakfast. She got up early to write -6,000 words a day or more, pausing only to instruct Cook on the day's meals. "She found," her biographer Barbara Stoney remarks politely. "that her increased writing and social commitments prevented her from seeing as much of her children as her columns suggested she did." There have been hints that her diligence made her dismissive of her own children, but this is a bit pat: not many male authors have this charge levelled at dren are quite at home in a them. And Blyton's daughters chauffeur-driven car, and talk are about to be paid hand-

recent survey of 2,300 children, she came second behind Roald Dahl. But her name was not included on the list of approved books for the National Curriculum in 1991, though at the time she was the third most-borrowed children's author - the two ahead of her, Roald Dahl and René Goscinny (Asterix), were not

included either. The total sale of Enid Blyton books numbers over 8 million copies a year, with translations into 27 languages. She wrote more than 700 books - nature books, Bible stories and versions of Homer and Aesop that are not well known, but collectively are a powerful force. There are translations into Czech, Polish and Slovenian: last year the Barney Mystery series was sold in a Mandarin version, in China. In France and Germany Enid Blyton is as much a household name as she is here. The one huge unexploited territory is America. That, so far as prospective buy-One thing is certain: she ers of the rights are concerned,

100 million books since he first nodded his way to stardom in BBC Children's International a marketing force to sell chil-America and France (where he is called "Oui Oui"), BBC Children's Video has become the second largest video label after Walt Disney. (The BBC has begun to imitate Disney also in the control it seeks to assert over the image of its hot

property: it declines to release photographs to the press without vetting the article.) But there is plenty to protect: on the back of the television series Plod, there have been five bestselling videos and 300 "licensed products", as well as a fortnightly magazine. The overall value of Noddy merchandising is £42m.

Blyton is, in short, a classic. And in a truly modern sense. she's a brand name. She seems to stand for a whole world of

adventurous childhood: kids roam around and steal boats without being arrested or abused, and dogs always growl at scoundrels. Many of the books were written in wartime (11 volumes in 1940 alone). While troops panicked on the beaches of Dunkirk, Blyton was writing The Secret of Spiggy

dramas of the age. She also had a shrewd grasp of the market. When she sent in the first manuscript of Noddy, she wrote: "The specific titles will each contain the they are very successful, they'll

and remember her books is a sign of how vivid they are." It's a familiar story. The books least admired by adults are often the most adored by children. In Blyton's case, this is not a new phenomenon. The same gulf existed 30 years ago, when Michael Woods wrote: "Amongst her vast public of children, just a whisper of her name conjures up feelings of excitement and anticipation:

among adults, reactions range

from derision to nausea."

Pamela Ally, rights manager at Darrell Waters, is not impressed by Blyton's detrac-tors. "I think that much of it is just hearsay," she says. "A lot of the people who make those comments haven't read the books. The stories are dated, of course they are; and they reflect the attitudes of the time. But actually I think one of the reasons for their popularity is that the books are safe compared to a lot of the other things on offer. There's very little violence."

Blyton's success, in the adventure novels, might also have something to do with her extremely simple narrative pro-cedure: all forests are dark and secret, castles are always remote and mysterious. These are escapist fantasies of the most straightforward, and perhaps therefore the most compelling, kind. They feature children - in groups, alone but together - outperforming stodgy adults. There are no cluttering details, no knowing asides to keep Mum and Dad entertained. This habit also helped Blyton turn out

books in the twinkling of an eye: of The River of Adventure she noted: "I began it on Monday and finished it this afternoon (Friday)."

At the beginning of The Secret Island, three miserable children bemoan their life of drudgery. They are orphans - their parents flew off to Australia two years ago in a home-made aeroplane and never came back. Now they live with their aunt, and are treated like slaves. "If only we could all run away together," they whisper. And off they go to a secret island in a lake. It is a very

orderly and wholesome kind of utopia - an optimistic version of Lord of the Flies. And it is not hard to see how captivating this is, however sentimental it seems to grown-ups. Nothing is dream of a perfect escape. Well, maybe something - the lure of forbidden fruit. Probably the best way to get children to read a book is to order them not to. So it will be ironic if the Famous Five. the Secret Seven and Noddy turn themselves into a multinational on the back of a

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ordered as the Noddy books. What do you think?"

It is a mighty achievement, reaching this many readers. "She's probably done more for world literacy than any other Holes. It might not be fanciful writer," says Mary Tapaissier, to imagine that some of the derring-do derives from the and Stoughton. "I can't think of another one on the same scale." And she sees no reason why it shouldn't continue. "We now have two generations of parents who grew up on her books, and they are still going strong. She word 'Noddy'. In the end, if has passed the barrier, she has stood the test of time. The probably be referred to and mere fact that people look back chorus of disapproval.

Jo Brand's week

Women-only train carriages may be introduced under a Labour government in a bid to reduce attacks on female passengers. Having suffered myself on trains, this strikes me as a good idea. Trains have always been to me a microcosm of society, in that all types travel on them and all types seem to ignore any trouble with the aid of a paper over their faces. Trouble is easier to ignore for those reading broadsheets as they cover more of the field of vision. I was once on my own in a Tube carriage reading a book and a man sat down opposite. I lifted my book closer to my face and heard the sound of a zip being pulled down. Unfortunately I don't give men the benefit of the doubt, so I didn't assume he was getting a novel out of his holdall. I was right. A quick glance over my book informed me that he was about to indulge in some rhythmic exercise which I didn't want to observe. So I got up and walked to another part of the carriage and sat opposite a couple saying to them as I sat down. "Do you mind if I sit here, there's a man up there masturbating." They looked at me as if I was mad and got up and moved to another carriage. Very reassuring indeed. In the end I got off the train and informed a member of staff at the station, who was slightly more interested but not much. I used to think these things only happened to me, but a quick straw poll of my friends informed me that it is quite common to be harassed be it staring, comments, rubbing up against women or the full monty. So all-women carriages seem a good idea, although as a male friend of mine pointed out, "Then all the men will know where to find them." Perhaps the Labour Party, if they get in, would like to give us all a gun for protection as well.

Fashion models are being pressured into having plastic surgery to breasts, noses, waists and ears to keep up with changing trends." So said the Telegraph this week, as it went on to describe the experience of various women who had been ordered to rearrange various bits of



themselves to fit in with an expected stereotype. Ribs discarded, chests ballooning and noses re-pointed in different directions appear to be an occupational hazard of the clotheshorse profession these days. Are model agencies receiving backhanders from private clinics or are film buffs writing in to complain that the lack of extra inches on the top ruined the film for them? Funnily enough, the new Bond film. Goldeneye, gets a look in, as a model was told the size of her breasts didn't fit the character. Was Pierce Brosnan scrutinised in this way? Were his vital statistics chewed over in a casting meeting to decide if his trouser area lived up to the Bond legend? I doubt it. Of course the rest of us aren't being pressured into plastic surgery by model agencies, just by society. That's even worse isn't it?

A woman in Chicago made a hoax bomb call this week forcing a plane carrying her mother-in-law to land in Iceland, because she didn't want



aforementioned mother-in-law to visit. This seems a bit extreme. A phone call may well have sufficed. It seems all these appalling chat shows in America are not helping your average American to improve their communication skills.

A documentary on girl gangs this week demonstrated a trend that is very depressing: women on the offensive, and mainly against other women. I have always been a believer in women being able to protect themselves, but not apeing men in their attempts to make themselves some money. These girls came across as moronic and limited, which was exemplified in their ambitions to be models or singers. The programme also implied, by interviewing only black girl gang members and white victims, that the issue was one of race. I think poverty, upbringing and deprivation might have been a more important focus, Still, that wouldn't have been such good telly would it?

GCHQ is set to axe about 250 jobs. I once met someone who worked there and spent ages trying to winkle out of him snippets of information about what went on in those protected corridors. Unfortunately the Official Secrets Act kept his tongue stiller than any inducements I had to offer. Still, I expect the union will put up a fight about job losses. Oh. sorry. I forgot. They're non-unionised, aren't they?

When I arrived home this week after 10 days on tour, I was greeted by a huge pile of mail. I was tired and irritable and desperate to put my feet up. For very little, I would have chucked the whole lot in the corner and ignored it. However, it is very unfair to dismiss people that have gone to the trouble of writing, so I spent ages working through it. It appears, from a mole on The Cook Report, that the Child Support Agency in Birmingham does not have the same problem and has shoved loads of mail in a cellar somewhere. Maybe it could employ 250 people from GCHQ to sort it out.

Are there any long drivers on the roads of Britain that drive safely and courteously? Having spent a month on motorways all over the country, it seems these drivers use their bulk to bully the rest of us into dangerous situations. They know we can't argue with a juggernaut. This may be an overgeneralisation, which I was ticked off about by a cab driver recently, but when I read this week that a woman driver had been rammed by a lorry and then subjected to 20 minutes of abuse by the driver, I wasn't surprised. On the roads, it seems, size is important.





ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000/0171-345 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435/0171-345 2435

Reshaping the Union, the McMajor way

The reputation of British politics has fallen so low that any hint of honesty from one its leading practitioners should be as welcome as a modest display of ball control from an English foothaller. So John Major's unexpected attempt to repackage himself as a constitutional reformer,

albeit a cautious one, should be encouraged.

In his interview with the *Independent* published yesterday, the Prime Minister made three important acknowledgments about the state of the nation. Taken together, these admissions could open up a new front in politics over the future of the Union, devolution and Home Rule for Scotland. They also mark a further stage in Mr Major's attempt to pick himself up from the canvas, raise his guard and start slugging it out

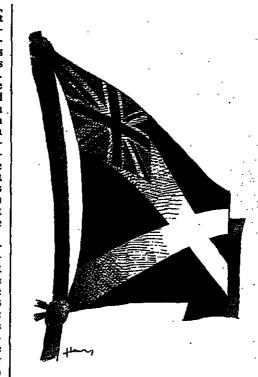
The first significant admission was over Scotland's viability as a separate state. Speaking in tones normally employed to describe distant lands, Mr Major sounded as if he had discovered an interesting new fact: "There are five million Scots," he told us. Nobody should be in any doubt that Scotland could be a separate nation;

it was perfectly credible, he warned. That was followed by a strikingly frank assessment of the potency of the separatist current in Scottish politics. It suits Mr Major tactically to play up the scale of the threat that Scottish Nationalists might pose to the Union, but he is surely right that in the long run, separatists could claim a mandate

to take Scotland out of the Union. For Mr Major, the corollary of these two propositions is that one needs to take a longterm view of the future of Scottish governance rather than simply appearing the nationalists, which is what he accuses Labour of doing. That means keeping the Union together by loosening its ties but retaining the primacy of West-minster. The separatist urges in Scottish politics will only be calmed if those five million Scots

have greater access to political decision-making. Mr Major's proposals will be unveiled by the Scottish Secretary, Michael Forsyth, at the end of the month. They may well involve Scottish MPs elected to Westminster debating Scottish legislation separately before it is finally voted on by the House of Commons as a whole. So Westminster would retain the right to propose legislation; a conclave of Scottish MPs would have the right to amend it. It is most unlikely that Westminster would risk overruling amendments approved in Scotland. So a new accommodation with nationalism would have been arrived at, but within the Westminster system, within the

It is not just Mr Major's frankness about Scot-land that should be welcomed; it is also his serious engagement with what is probably the most far-reaching and demanding of tasks facing the modern political leader – the reshaping of the nation state. There are at least three components to that task - making Britain more competitive in the global market, finding it a settled place within a more integrated Europe and respond-ing to the demands for devolution from the nations and regions that make up the UK. Mr Major has made precious little contribution to making Britain more competitive. But on the other two - European integration and consti-



tutional reform - he could make some significant progress in his faltering, quiet way.

As far as constitutional reform is concerned,

he has gone from being an implacable defender of the Union to realising that it has to become more flexible to survive. He could yet preside over a historic peace settlement in Northern Ireland, which would refashion the province's relationship with Britain. His proposals for Scotland could be taken up in Wales. On Europe, Mr Major has a new-found confidence that the arguments are going his way both within the EU and within his within his party. That confidence may be pre-

mature but it is not altogether without grounds.
It is almost as if Mr Major has stumbled by chance upon this theme of constitutional reform.
Yet if he were to pull it off – a United Kingdom in which the various parts were more at ease with one another and a Britain more at ease with itself in Europe - it would be quite an achievement. It is not one that would necessarily be rewarded at the polls, but one that might be

remarked upon approvingly by historians.

The Major approach, if that is not too flattering a description for something so ad hoc, has the shortcomings that are typical of him. He recognises that Scotland could be a viable separate country. Yet he argues that too much democracy would be dangerous; the Scots cannot be trusted with power because they might eventually vote for separation. This is the sort of argument against democracy that anciens régimes of one kind or another have been using for centuries. The case for a Home Rule parliament for Scotland is irresistible on moral

grounds, and may become so on practical and political grounds.

Despite their limitations, the Scottish proposals are evidence that Mr Major is starting to learn how to fight back against Mr Blair - by getting in first, camping on the Labour leader's terrain or simply lifting his ideas. On Wednesday, during the Queen's Speech debate, for example, he dismissed the Labour leader's suggestion that the Asylum and Immigration Bill should be handled by a special Commons committee to prevent race becoming an issue in British politics. By Thursday, he was seriously considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea, and if he has any political considering the idea of the cal nous, by next week he will be promoting it

as his own.

His initiative on Scottish governance may be inadequate but it is not without merit, and it will put Labour's politically correct, soft nationalists on the spot. Everything the Tories are doing in Scotland – giving local authorities more freedom of manoeuvre, for instance – is designed to put Labour on the back foot. With this move, Mr Major will claim to be offering real devolution of power, which he will contrast to the grandiose, bloated, bureaucratic talking shop on offer from Labour.

Of course, Mr Major has a long way to go before he solves the Conservatives' great political problem in Scotland – the vast majority of Scots elect Labour MPs, but are ruled by Tories from Westminster. These proposals are unlikely to solve this problem, but they will alleviate it and at the very least, Mr Blair will know that he still has a fight on his hands.

■ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ■

Life beyond Westminster's two-party club

From Mr David Rendel, MP Sir: Anthony King's article about the SDP ("The end of the Mad Hatters", 16 November) demonstrates, once again, the curiously Westminster-centric attitude to politics shown by so

many political commentators. Mr King asserts that over the past 20 years the British party system has scarcely changed. Has he not noticed that, during that time, the Liberal Democrat Party has moved from third place to second place, overtaking the Conservatives, in local government? We have moved from fewer than 1,000 councillors to more than 5,000 councillors, and having been in control of no councils at all, we are now in control of more than 50,

and are the largest Party in more than 50 others. These changes began before 16 November tinued steadily while that party was in existence, and have, if anything, accelerated since the merger of the SDP and the Liberal Party. Many of those thousands of councillors now proud the new party as a result of the

formation of the SDP. It is, of course, true that the huge popularity of the Alliance in 1982 at national level proved in the end as ephemeral as the current popularity of Tony Blair is likely to prove in a few months' time. The volatility of the current British electorate can lead to very large transient swings in national popularity. In contrast, the increasing

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strength of the Liberal Democ- local electors who are still haprats in local government, in which the formation of the SDP has played such a significant part, is now so firm and so long-standing, that it will surely be seen in history as of far greater significance than any

temporary national swings. The fact that so many of our current parliamentary seats ership". We were, and more have been won on the basis of previous local election success shows that it can only be a matter of time before we achieve increasing success at national level, this time based on a much more secure and long-lasting foundation.

Yours sincerely, DAVID RENDEL MP for Newbury (Lib Dem) House of Commons

the formation of the SDP con- The writer is Local Government spokesman for the Liberal

Sir: As we gather in Weston-Super-Mare this week-Democrats were drawn into the members of the Social Democratic Party will take with a pinch of salt yet another report of our demise ("The end of the Mad Hatters", 16 November).

Professor King's assessment of the problems of the SDP is scholarly enough but makes some false claims and draws some inaccurate conclusions. The SDP will certainly not

have appeared to vanish without trace to those very many

pily represented by SDP councillors around the country. It is also wrong to perpetuate the myth that the SDP merged with the then Liberal party. Only a minority of SDP mem-

bers voted for the merger. Nor was the continuing SDP "dedicated to David Owen's leadimportantly still are, dedicated to Social Democracy. It was our good fortune to have a politician of Dr Owen's stature to lead us. In those circumstances only a party of imbeciles would have wished to be led by anyoge else.

Professor King's aberrant conclusion is that Labour's conversion to Conservatism is a reflection of the spirit of the age. This is sheer nonsense. It is a clear expression of the corrupting effect of a corrupt and outdated electoral system. Labour's leaders have simply abandoned "principle without power" in the hope of achieving power, presumably with

principles sent to the wall. but we will continue to look to a future and to prepare radical policies for a country that will one day reject once and for all the woefully inadequate electoral system and the wearisome and second-rate politicians with which it saddles us. Yours faithfully. JOHN BATES

President Social Democratic Party Morecambe 16 November

How the V&A should charge | Transparent

From Mr Peter Forster Sir: The Victoria and Albert Museum's proposal to impose

a compulsory £10 entrance fee fills this London artist with dismay ("V&A director wants £10 admission fee", 16 November). It presupposes that we all visit a museum or art gallery under exactly the same conditions, as if we were all tourists cramming in everything (or as much as possible) in one fell swoop, "doing" the sight and ticking it off in our Blue

We Londoners visit our museums during our lunch breaks, in the course of our shopping expeditions, or en route between appointments. We artists drop in to see a particular gallery or exhibit, or to check a specific reference. Ten pounds for a whole day

splendours of the V&A is not unreasonable (I love the place as for the royal box. sufficiently to say that it is Yours faithfully, cheap), but for 10 minutes or Peter Forster a quarter of an hour it is just London, N4 a bit steep, especially if the

gallery one came to see is closed for the day or the exhibit is temporarily not on

I am willing (and the museum at present takes my honesty on trust) to pay according to the time I have at my disposal or the time I need. Culture has its price as much as anything else, but the price. like most other things, must be

A city museum is not a stately home which one travels miles through the country to tour, nor is it a theatre or an opera house where one pays to see a complete performance. not simply ones favourite scene or aria – and where, incidentally, one pays more for a good seat than for a partial

The V&A's proposed fee is or an afternoon amidst all the the equivalent of charging the same price for a seat in the gods Yours faithfully,

tactics From Mr Norman Hogg, MP

Sir: The Prime Minister has from time to time demonstrated a capacity to surprise his opponents inside and outside the Tory Party. His announcement, exclusive to the Independent, that he intends to make a statement "within a very few weeks" on constitutional change in Scotland is a surprise. The content is likely to be less surprising and add up to something less than constitutional

The Labour and Liberal Democrat proposal for a Scottish Parliament is the product of consensus worked out in the Scottish Constitutional Convention which includes Labour's 49 MPs, the Liberal Democrats who are Scotland's secondlargest opposition party, most Scottish local authorities, the churches, STUC and a range of other organisations. Its popularity among Scottish voters is founded on that consent.

Mr Major and his Tories constitutional question when Baroness Thatcher won power in 1979. The Scots abandoned the Tories soon after. The Prime Minister and his Scottish Secretary have little prospect of regaining the ground with a tarted up Scottish Grand Committee that leaves the final say exactly where it always has been - with the Government of the day. The Scots are not so easily duped. Yours faithfully, NORMAN HOGG MP for Cumbernauld and

When in Naples From Mr Michael P. Fariss

Kilsyth (Lab)

London, SW1

17 November

House of Commons

Sir: It does not need to be cold for the men and women of Naples to bring out their win-ter overcoats (Rome Diary, 15 November). When I lived there some years ago I was amazed at the extraordinary change that takes place on 1 September.

Winter officially begins on this date and all swimming pools and beaches are closed until May. It is also the date when Neapolitans don their winter garb, whatever the actual temperature. It certainly made a bizarre

sight. While holidaymakers and non-Italian residents were in summer clothes the locals were dressed as if expecting the next Ice Age to begin. Michael P. Fariss

Castle Douglas, Kirkeudbrightshire

Telly addicts

Sir: So, 11-year-olds are shunning homework for TV, eh? (report. 17 November). Well, good for them. What business have they got doing homework at their age? Parents complain that TV is boring - how much more so must homework be if kids shun it in favour of the box! Kids don't like homework and they do like TV: let them live their own lives for a change. Yours faithfully, ROLAND ANDERSON

Head of Humanities Summerhill School Leiston, Suffolk

AARONOVITCH Peak of

pique The man who argues that he is still faithful to his wife if he and his mistress indulge only in oral sex is, one would have thought, a man to be trusted. Yes, he is indulging in

an extreme form of casuistry, but at least such a man is constructing a logical argument to cover his immediate, er ... difficulties. Such a man, in my view, is Newt Gingrich, Speaker of the House of Congress in the United States. Like many of our own crusaders for family values. Newt has built his expertise on the back of several families. It was during his first marriage that he and an Anne Hollander met up and agreed soixante-neuf wasn't adulterous. Prudently, however, they chose not to share this inge-

nious argument with first Mrs Satisfied with the outcome of this dispensation, Mr Gingrich has gone on to become famous for his ability to link ends with means. Through his televised lectures, his audiotapes and his books Newt has shown that he possesses the "Vision thing" - and then gone on to demonstrate the Strategy, Tactics and Projects things, too. His interviews often sound like a convention of management consultants on soced, as he hurtles through personal development, the superhighway and great moments from the career of Kemal Ataturk. His status as a big thinker is confirmed by his friendship with Heidi and Alvin Toffler - brilliant philosophers of the Third Wave, but too often confused with

with execrable dress sense. In short, Newt is my kind of guy. Or was, And then this week he revealed the true Gingrich. His obstinacy in refusing to agree any budget compromise with President Bill Clinton was not the result of a careful calculation of the electoral consequences of the collapse of federal government. Nor was it fine tuned to call the president's bluff. No, he did it because he was - in the vernacular - pissed off. Bill, he felt. had treated him shabbily on

two barmy, elderly ex-hippies

their flight back from Israel after the funeral of Yitzhak Rabin.

While Gingrich and his Senate Republican colleague Bob Dole had been put at the back of the plane (presumably too close to the loos and the microwave), Clinton had snubbed them by sitting up at the front, near the pilot. So for 12 long hours Bob and Newt sat there waiting for the call that never came. To add further humiliation, upon landing the twin Speakers were forced to disembark by the back door. Said Newt: "Every president we have ever flown with has had us up front." This showed him that no compromise on the budget was possible, and that the White House "wanted a fight". Within days 800,000 federal employees were idle.

To take an important public decision out of pure pique is, on the face of it, quite rare. We remember the exceptions, such as Lord Cardigan, who charged the guns at Balaclava partly because of his animosity towards his equally boneheaded fellow peer, Lord

Actually, as the incomparable Norman Dixon has pointed out, this lack of rationality is not uncommon. Among a certain type of leaders he discerns something he calls the "Phaeton complex", after the son of Phoebus, who insisted in driving his father's chariot across the heavens and was eventually stopped from killing everything in his way by a thunderbolt from Zeus. Pushing them on is an irrational desire to prove themselves.

And what do they have in common? A study of the 24 British prime ministers between 1809 and 1937 showed that in 16 cases, as children they had suffered the permanent loss of a parent through separation or death. As adults they showed tendencies towards extreme reserve, solitariness, an obsessive need for love, recklessness and (often) a belief in the supernatural. Needless to say, young Newt lost his father at an early age. So did young Bill. If I were an American civil servant, I'd be looking for another job.

Victims of the **Housing Bill**

From Ms Diana Maddock, MP Sir: Your headline about the forthcoming Housing Bill, "Single parents to lose council se priority", (16 November) is highly misleading.

Single parents do not have, and have never had, priority for council houses. As the law currently stands, they have equal priority with any other household that includes children, a pregnant woman or a disabled or elderly person. This means that if they are evicted or repossessed, they are automatically defined as "vulnerable" by local authorities and therefore prioritised for council housing. It was the 1977 Homeless

Persons Act, proposed by the then Liberal MP Stephen Ross. that first gave homeless families with children priority for secure housing tenancies. What the Government is now proposing to do is reverse this by giving local authorities licence to put these families (of all kinds, single and double parent) into insecure, unstable temporary accommodation. As well as being expensive and stressful for families, temporary accommodation has been shown to have a profound impact on children's education.

All homeless families will suffer under the Government's short-sighted proposals. Conservative ministers should not be allowed to get away with teenage mothers (who occupy fewer than 0-3 per cent of coun-cil properties) who will be hit. DIANA MADDOCK MP for Christchurch and East Dorset (Lib Dem)

House of Commons

Losson, SW1

Posthaste to Inverness

From Mr David Smith

Sir. Christian Wolmar is right to extol the virtues of high-speed rail travel, the particular benefits of city centre to city centre travel, and rail's crucial role in helping to regenerate our large cities ("Trains signal start of ground battle with airlines", 15 November). He refers to the extent of investment in new high-speed lines across Europe. In Britain, only the new 68-mile route from London, St Pancras to the Channel tunnel is

I would suggest that now is the right time to begin to consider a northwards extension of this new high-speed link. The first phase could link the new line immediately north of the Thames crossing at Rainham

with Rugby on the West Coast Line. Connections with the East Coast and Midland Lines could be made where it crosses them. In this way all major cities north of London could be connected directly to the European rail network. Built to the larger European loading gauge much freight could transfer from road to rail. The West Coast Line is badly

in need of refurbishment. Whether it could be improved to become a fully fledged highspeed line seems questionable. So my proposal also provides a method of providing a highspeed alternative to the West oast Line between Rugby and London for domestic journeys Yours sincerely. DAVID SMITH Principal Research Officer Sheffield City Council

High hopes

planned.

From Ms Suzanne Lucas Sir: Your article "How to be healed" (Section Two, 16 November) stated that "Tibetan medicine is particularly effective in the treatment of diabetes".

The British Diabetic Association recognises that "alternative" medicines are becoming increasingly popular and may fulfil a need not met by current orthodox diabetes care. However, it is important that any alternative treatment is seen as complementary and on no account should conventional medication be stopped.

Diabetes is a chronic condition, and at the moment incurable, and although there is effective treatment available many people find it difficult to adapt to diagnosis. It is vital that diabetes treatment is given once prescribed and if this is stopped for any reason it could lead to life-threatening consequences. The search for a miracle cure is not surprising, but Yours sincerely

Sheffield

16 November

it is important not to raise peo-SUZANNE LUCAS Director of Care British Diabetic Association

November). never forget.

Crowning glory of actor's career

Robert Stephens as King Lear

From Mr David Whiting Sir: The British theatre is all the poorer, with the death of Robert Stephens ("Stage mourns loss of great 'Lear' and obituaries/gazette. 14

To see him as King Lear, at Stratford, was a truly moving experience, and one I shall His acting had an extraordi-

nary gravity and a certain grandeur; here was a man bringing to bear the weight of his life's experience in a great

tragic role, and the sheer power of his delivery in the storm scene was remarkable. Such was the strength of his presence, that it seemed to be

felt even when he was off-stage, a kind of brooding intensity that filled you with anticipation for It is a happy story that after

the wilderness of the Eighties, Mr Roland Anderson this actor "came home" so triumphantly in the Nineties, and the British theatre rediscovered one of its greatest actors. Yours faithfully, DAVID WHITING Hampton Lovett, Worcestershire 13 November

Stuart Morris

Letters should be addressed to Letters to the Editor, Independent. One Canada Square. Canary Wharf. London E14 5DL (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) and include a daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters.

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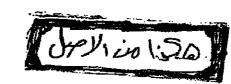
QUOTE UNQUOTE

Lord take my soul ... but the struggle continues - Ken Saro-Wiwa Nigerian minority rights activist, before he was hanged All women really want is to grow up, fall in love and live happily ever after. I did. I still do - Clare Short, Shadow Transport Secretary If they want we will give them a sleeping bag, but there is something romantic about sleeping under the desk. They want to do it - Bill Gates, Microsoft chief, on his young software programmers I was flattered but told her, 'Sorry luv, I'm married' - Suggs, singer with Madness, who turned down a dinner date with Madonna

The world-wide drug business would be harder to organise if banks, the Swiss banks foremost among them, were more careful about accepting large deposits based on the proceeds of crime

How can you sell a new product to the public if it hasn't got a name? - Jacques Santer, president of the European Union, on the single currency These are truly scenes from hell, written on the darkest pages of

human history - Bosnia war crimes indictment At the moment, we don't have a peace process. We need to reestablish the peace process - Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein



2

Tinke takes

PROFILE: the Princess of Wales

Tinkerbell takes her revenge

Carmen Callil believes Princess Diana is out to attack the Royal Family

T t's hard to imagine why a monar-Lehy the British purport to love so much should be subjected to its current embarrassment. When the Royal Family are perfectly well supplied with members who behave badly, what terrible fate has dumped on them a malign Tinker-bell like Princess Diana, who behaves so much worse?

It's been clear since that first preengagement photograph when her beautiful face peered out slyly at a thousand cameras, that Di was going to be dynamite. The key items in those photos were the eyes: the knowing eyes of a difficult little girl.

Princess Di had one of those British Establishment childhoods that are particularly tough on girls. You need to be as smart as paint to live in that world, particularly when your parents split up when you are very young, as hers did. Diana is not as smart as paint, in fact quite the opposite. A twicemarried mother now distributing Holy Water around the island of Iona, a stepmother Raine, with whom she did not get on, two older sisters and nannies who were no substitute for anything - these would appear to be female role

she adored the cameras, she courted journalists, she beamed at babies.

But when Di married Charles, she married a job of work and is, was and will be paid handsomely for it. She married an institution, and was paid in designer clothes, fleets of cars, houses, boats, airplanes, travel, public adoration, everything money could buy. Why, when all she has suffered is an unfaithful husband, who in many ways has been misused himself, is Tinkerbell on the warpath? The only answer can be that her kind of parcissism feeds on the damage she can do to anyone who will not do what she wants, who will not participate in her distorted infantile vision of how she thinks her world should be.

During the early years of their marriage, Princess Di. by reason of her beauty, became the Marilyn Monroe of Princesses, one of those empty vessels into which celluloid pours its heart. She had two sons, William in 1982 and Harry in 1984. Both Charles and Diana continued to perform their public duties with the princess capturing the hearts and minds of the public, the press and the world's photographic corps. In 1992, we learnt that the fairy



Lord Wakeham, chairman of the

Press Complaints Committee and

asked him for a new privacy law to

be introduced to protect the Royal

Family from press intrusion.

In 1993, Princess Diana retired

very publicly from public life, but

bobbed back again almost imme-

diately. Her mates in the press

helped her through the 1994 doc-

umentary of Prince Charles in

which he admitted his adultery

Apparently, she was rebuffed.

Princess Di: victim of a British Establishment childhood?

Photograph: Reuter

affair with her riding instructor, Captain Hewitt, and there have been other friendships with similar young men. The Hewitt story was graphically recounted in Anna Pasternak's book A Princess in Love.

The release of tapes giving us audio information of Prince

Charles affair with Camilla Parker-Bowles and Princess Di's "squidgy

> and which showed that this was probably the least likely cause for the failure of their marriage. In the meantime, Princess Di passed her days in workouts, hairdressing, shopping (reportedly £3,000 a week on "grooming") invesoften the pla

> > What this Panorama programme is also rumoured to be about is her

tlement from Prince Charles or the Queen. Princess Diana wants her children, lashings of fame and royal pomp and circumstance, two or three houses and between £15m and £20m. Prince Charles' pre-tax income is £4m a year. So that leaves the Queen, the richest person in the world or the fourth-richest, depending on which list you use.

Thus Panorama on Monday will see Princess Di on the rampage. Even if she recites cooking recipes for an entire hour, which seems unlikely, I believe she will damage those to whom she owes most by reason of love (her sons) and duty (the Queen). What sort of institution is the Monarchy anyway, that cannot see that this putative Queen of England is now in serious trouble, that Di hates herself and her nearest and dearest to such a degree that only the television

Panorama may make Princess Di feel better for five minutes but those to whom she owes most are likely to feel worse. And when she comes down from her junkie publicity fix, so will she. Then we all start again.

The writer was founder of Virago

Is this really such a soaraway idea?

Tony Blair may not get all he hopes from snuggling up to the 'Sun', says John Rentoul

newspapers in protest at the media baron's union-busting move from Fleet Street to Wapping. But yesterday, as Murdoch closed Today newspaper, Tony Blair apparently urged its read-ers to switch to the Labour Party's former arch-enemy the Sun. One of Mr Blair's most striking initiatives has been his courtship of Mr Murdoch and the Sun in particular.

As home affairs spokesman, he wrote what was then a remarkable article for the Sun in March 1993. The fact that he chose the Sun was new enough, but what he said was equally surprising. "It's a bargain - we give opportunity, we demand responsibility," he wrote. "There is no excuse for crime. None."

Since then, Mr Blair has become almost a regular contributor to the Sim. The link was almost certainly Alastair Camp-bell, now Mr Blair's press secretary, then assistant editor of Today. "If we can get a roughly neutral playing field, we'll be doing pretty well - treating us fairly up to the election would be a significant step forward," says Mr Campbell.

When Mr Blair became Labour leader, his relationship with Mr Murdoch changed a gear. Within weeks, Der Spiegel reported Mr Murdoch saying we" could imagine supporting Mr Blair at the next election. Informal contacts, and two meetings between the men culminated in Mr Blair's famous decision to travel half-way round the world to address the "Leadership Conference" of the NewsCorp world media empire in Australia on 17 July

this year. The visit aroused muted suspicion in the Labour Party, but appeared to pay dividends. At the end of July, the Sun greeted the result of the Littleborough and Saddleworth by-election with the front-page headline: "Blair joy as Tories crushed." scrutiny of the text revealed to the Sun's 10 million readers that the Liberal Democrat Chris Davies had actually won the seat.

On the Monday night before his speech to the TUC in September, Blair's aides brought him news of a damaging leak to the next day's Guardian of a memo from polling adviser Philip Gould, which said Labour was "not ready for gov-

Not so long ago, Labour boy-cotted Rupert Murdoch's ernment". Mr Blair was dining with Mr Murdoch at the time. Mr Blair pursued his feud with the Guardian by comparing its reporting of his speech unfavourably with the Sun's. "If you read the Sun newspaper this morning, you will see a bet-ter indication of Labour policy that actually deals with Labour policy than you will ever read in the Guardian," he said. The Sun reported his speech to the TUC under the headline "Blair blasts

'time warp' union barons". The Sun introduced a Blair article when the Labour conference began with: "Here, Tony Blair reveals how he hopes to make Britain great again under a New Labour. New Labour, New Britain. It is exactly where we are in British politics today.

The Sun's editorials are still frequently bitterly hostile to Labour. Recently, the paper reported "secret plans" for a return to a 60p in the pound top income tax rate. "But on the whole, we have nothing like the vitriol that Neil Kinnock or even John Smith used to get, says Mr Campbell.

The latest attempt to conscript Mr Blair for News International's bid to switch readers from Today to the Sun has offended the Mirror, which today carries an "exclusive" article by Mr Blair explaining why I am backing the crusad ing Daily Mirror.

Mr Campbell says he had

imagined that yesterday's Blair article would be in the Sun, "and in the sense that part of the Sun was inserted into the last edition of Today, it was". But for him and for Mr Blair, getting the message across is the most important thing. "If the headline said 'Read the Sun', I would have complained," says Mr Campbell. In fact, it said "Why Sun readers are turning to Labour", and carried the essential Blair message: "The Tories posed as the friend of the decent hard-working majority. But in truth, they have always been the party of the privileged and it is Labour that is in touch with the hopes and aspirations of people who want to work hard, get on, play by the rules."

But what really matters to Mr Blair and the "New" Labour Party is the one promise the Sun flyer in yesterday's Today says it will keep. "On election day, we will tell you honestly which party we consider to be the best

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Her kind of narcissism feeds on the damage she can do to anyone who will not do what she wants

models from hell. On the face of it, it's hard to see exactly what was excessive about her miserable childhood, thousands have borne nat is certain is that it l her vulnerable and unstable.

Prince Charles whisked this unfortunate child out of the playground and married her in front of the world's cameras in 1981 when she was 20. She showed every sign of loving being a princess, and indeed if you have to be one, she was good at it. She visited the sick,

tale marriage had become a sham. With the publication of Princess Diana: Her Story a book just about unofficially sponsored by Diana but story as wronged Princess was revealed. We read a tragic story of a young woman suffering from bulimia, depressions, insomnia, prone to throwing herself downstairs, almost slitting her wrists, and reacting to every event that was not to her liking with fits of histrionics.

There are also allegations of an

tapes", kept this pantomime marriage on permanent display. Diana played games in her cor-

ner of the playground by collecting a courtier band of tame journalists: in these years she became a pubwere taken of her in her gym. This year, however, while planning her television interview, she dined with

licity junkie. Unsurprisingly, in 1993, the Press Complaints Commission singled her out for criticism for this, but she received damages when surreptitious photographs

tigating alternative therapies, colonic irrigation and generally becoming obsessed with her body and various men, ignoring, as children do, that of someone else. When she hypnotised England Rugby Captain Will Carling, her reputation seemed to suffer. She had only one way of dealing with this: she picked up the phone and rang Panorama.

desire to get a massive divorce set-

A peace as flimsy as papyrus

Any semblance of harmony in the Middle East is an uneasy one, writes Michael Sheridan

Bruined city, pale and ghostly lights come on here and there in half-abandoned buildings. A fire burns on an upper floor of the old St George's Hotel, warming the Syrian sentries huddled against the salty damp of the sea. Car headlights glimmer around the pompous new offices arising in a darkened city centre. Poor Shia Muslims and Palestinians still throng in angry, unredeemed squalor in the shanty towns and suburbs.

Is this just the sad past of the Mid-dle East? Or is Beirut its future, an omen for capitals that are yet to descend into an abyss of chauvinist strife or a war of succession, cities even now pursuing the humdrum life of commerce and government while the dragon's teeth grow underground?

In the aftermath of the assassination of Israel's Yitzhak Rabin, every neighbouring country in the Middle East paid ritual deference to the peace process. But conversations with politicians, officials and influential private citizens in each nation raised legitimate doubts over its future.

Mr Rabin's death seemed to spur onwards the reconciliation for which he sacrificed his life. In Saudi Arabia, King Fahd confided to a visitor that one day his kingdom would establish diplomatic relations with the Jewish state. In Damascus, President Assad murmured about his "strategic choice" for a negotiated settlement. President Mubarak of Egypt, beset by religious opponents, defied them by visiting Jerusalem for Rabin's funeral. King Hussein of Jordan invoked the shade of his assassinated grandfather and publicly sought the honourable end of martyrdom in a

Viewed from Beirut, the advent of "peace" in the Middle East seems to be a stillness born of exhaustion. In Lebanon, observed a functionary in the elegant villa housing its foreign ministry, "we are, to use your English phrase, repenting at leisure." Beirut



Grasping for unity: Beirut is still pivotal in the region's balance of power

was torn apart between 1976 and 1990. To one returning after a decade, it feels like an itinerary of horror tourism here the echo of a car bomb, there the pock-marked memories of a terrifying afternoon under siege, elsewhere the remembered thump of shells and the gwful, sick thud of munitions and flesh.

Like a future Sarajevo, Beirut has a half-peace, its inhabitants reconstructing while the world's attention moves on. Lebanon needs regional peace to expel the Israelis from the south and to formalise an end to its own conflicts.

But there is no guarantee that the peace treaties between Israel and its neighbours envisaged by the Americans will deliver the stable security sought by investors and regimes like the frag-ile Lebanese government. Indeed, their very advent will provoke extremists to overthrow the ruling order.

In Saudi Arabia, the royal family

faces an unquantifiable amount of "Islamist" opposition, Last week's car bomb in Riyadh, which killed five Americans, showed that the kingdom is no longer immune to violence.

Syria and Jordan face succession problems. President Assad is in only moderate health. He lost his first son, and has yet to groom a successor to inherit a regime delicately balanced between the President's minority Alawite sect and the Sunni Muslim majority. King Hussein of Jordan has had a cancerous kidney removed and has visibly aged. He must confront Iraqi intrigues against his country and hold a consensus of the "silent majority" against Islamic radicals opposed to his

peace treaty with Israel. The fates of the Hashemite monarchy and the Palestinians are linked because Yasser Arafat's nascent state may enter a confederation with Jordan.

Yet this prospect, too, is fraught with instability. Arafat's own safety, he says, "is a matter of destiny", and a new division of power between the West Bank, Gaza and Amman could invite violent contention. In Egypt, the Mubarak government has unleashed a ferocious repression of fundamentalism. The underground war against Islamic guerrillas has so far kept Egypt from turn-

ing into Algeria, but at a terrible price. All these individual cases underline a common problem, which is that in most Arab regimes, governments are "recognised" but not necessarily legitimate, even in terms of their papyrusflimsy constitutions.

Israelis such as Ariel Sharon, who are opposed to the Rabin-ordained peace deal, argue that it is not possible to make binding arrangements with darkened shambles of Beirut stands as untrustworthy and unstable societies. a warning of what will happen if it all The frequent reply, that the Arab goes wrong,

argued for the early realisation and entrenchment of treaties and agreements, so that any successor governments – Islamic or secular – would risk violating the pacts at their mortal peril.

regimes have proved durable, is fatuous, because the actuarial odds are

inevitably against Messrs Assad and Muharak as well as King Fahd and King

Hussein. Change in any of these coun-

Rabin's answer – a soldier's response – was that Israel's long-term interests

tries could bring violence.

In other words, ran the Rabin and Peres argument, Israel needed to exploit the favourable strategic situa-tion bequeathed by the end of the Cold War and the Gulf war before the factors of population and arms proliferation put it at an overwhelming disad vantage to the Arab states. Yet when this challenge was flung

down to a dinner table of high-powered Israeli commentators and analysts in Tel Aviv last week, it met scorn. Every such suggestion - this one from a very senior Western official - is interpreted as a coercive argument intended to push them into premature concessions. This brings us back from Beirut to

"Palestine" and the unresolved core of the double dispute between Israelis and Palestinians over land and between Jews and Muslims over the possession of the sacred shrines of Jerusalem. Edward Said, the gadfly Palestinian

intellectual, has identified Arafat's "fatal yet characteristic mix of incompetence and authoritarianism" as the barrier to achieving a just settlement for his people. He says "no negotiations are better than endless concessions that simply prolong the Israeli occupation".

Arguments of this kind grow in authenticity with every delay and each political humiliation meted out to Arafat. It now falls to Shimon Peres to grapple with the awesome choices Israel must make. For the Arabs, the

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FTSE 250	39645	+3.7	+01	3991.3	3300.9	3.5
FTSE 350	1793.9	-03	-00	17942	1477.0	39
FT Small Cap	19931	+499	+28	1993.1	1678.6	3.3
FT All-Share	1769.5	+0.1	+00	17694	1465.2	38
New York *	4960.3	-91	-02	4961.8	3674.6	24
Tokyo	18151.2	+211.7	+12	197530	144854	0.8**
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ledes.	1 Secti	1 Year	Hedian Pari (%)	Year Ago	ing len	(1) for Ap
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	CURRENCIES	
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Pound				Dollar			
	Yesterday	Charge	Year Ago		Vesteralny	Change	Tear Ago
\$ (London)	15521	-0.42c	1569	£ (London)	06443	+0.18	0637
\$ (N York)**	15530	-0.28c	1.566	£ (N York)**	0.6439	+0.12	0.639
DM (London)	21803	-132pt	24379	DM (London)	14048	-0.47pt	15539
Yen (Landon)	158.702	-Y0.383	154.581	Yen (London)	102.25	+.Y0.03	98.525
£ index	82.3	-03	79.7	\$ Index	931	-05 .	95.09

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Gold S	38650	+15_	3840	GEOP	106.6	2Apc	41	20 Nov
Gold £	24900	+2.28	244617	Bese F	lates -	6.75pc	525	_

IN BRIEF

EC to clear Lufthansa's link with SAS

The European Commission will approve the code sharing and marketing alliance between Scandinavian Airlines System and Germany's Lufthansa after the two airlines agreed concessions. The EC's Competition Commissioner, Karel van Miert, said an official announcement would be made in early January. The concessions include allowing competitors to operate between the two countries in peak times. Meanwhile, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines denied it was looking for another American partner because of a power struggle with current partner Northwest Airlines.

R & D spending climbs

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Spending by British business on research and development rose 5 per cent in 1994 to £9.5bn. Adjusting for inflation, there was a 3 per cent increase, according to the Central Statistical Office. In both years R&D spending amounted to 1.4 per cent of GDP. The two biggest spenders were pharmaceuticals and aerospace. The Government funded £1.1bn of total R&D spending

M & S denies threat to St Michael brand

Marks & Spencer has denied speculation that it is to abandon its St Michael trademark. The company says it is undertaking a review of all signs and branding within its stores which could result in a new brand identity. However it said the St Michael name, which appears on all Marks & Spencer products will remain. M&S deputy chairman Keith Oates said: "There is no intention now or in the future of dropping the St Michael name."

AA and RAC join bid for transport labs

The AA and the RAC are among shortlisted bidders for the Transport Research Laboratory. They are part of a consortium which includes Pell Frischmann Consulting Engineers and Mouchel Associates. The other shortlisted bidder is Transport Research Foundation, which includes TRL's management. TRL's annual turnover is about £32m, with operating profit in 1994-95 of £2.4m.

Cathay adds to Airbus fleet

Cathay Pacific Airways has ordered two more Airbus A330 airliners, to be fitted with Rolls-Royce Trent engines. Airbus emphasised that these were new orders, not conversion of options. and brought the total number of A330s ordered by the Asian

German jobless rate rises

Germany's unemployment total rose again in October; the Bundesbank said in its November monthly report. The jobless total rose marginally, with 80,000 more people unemployed than in October 1994. The jobless rate rose to 14.3 percent in east Germany and remained at 8.4 per cent in west Germany, giving an overall rate of 9.6 per cent. The number of jobs on offer dropped to around 310,000 – "the first drop in a long time".

Grid heads straight for FT-SE 100

The National Grid will be catapulted straight into the ranks of the FT-SE 100 index of blue-chip companies when it is demerged from the 12 regional electricity companies in England and Walcs the stock exchange confirmed. The £3.5bn flotation, which has entailed months of negotiation between the industry and the Government, is scheduled for 11 December.

Pound plunges into uncharted territor

DIANE COYLE Economics Correspondent

The pound fell into uncharted territory yesterday, sailing perilously closer to the crucial DM2 barrier. It hit an all-time low against both the mark and a range of other currencies in

"Sterling is completely out of favour due to a deadly combination of political worries and firmer expectations of an interest rate cut," said Neil MacKinnon, chief economist at Citibank in London. He predicted the pound could fall rom the DM2.1725 low it touched yesterday to DM2 in the next few months.

Howard Davies, the Bank of England's deputy governor, said

yesterday that it would change sales volumes fell, while infi its advice on interest rates if tion declined unexpectedly. there were clear signs that the economy had weakened. This was the clearest signal so far that recent weak data might alter the Bank's current "wait and see" However, Mr Davies added:

"We are not yet persuaded that inflation is dead, nor indeed that the Government will achieve its inflation target of 2.5 per cent or less." Some indicators were pointing up, some down. Figures released earlier this week cemented expectations that the Chancellor will cut

base rates soon after the Budget on 28 November, Last month unemployment rose for the first time in two years, manufacturing output and retail

futures market are currently betting that interest rates will drop by a quarter point from their current level of 6:75 per cent by the end of this year, and again in the first half of next year. The only reasons analysis

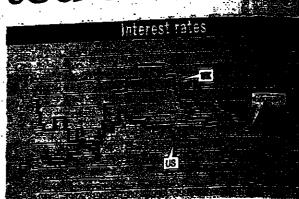
would be either an irresponsible Budget or an eve against the mark but its index against a range of convencies closed at a record tow of 823 yesterday. It has fallen nearly 8. ner cent since the beg

can see to postpone a reduction

move closer not only in Britain but also in America and Germany. There is mounting evidence of slower growth and lower inflation than anyone expected in all the industrial countries, building a persuasive case for a relaxation of policy. With budget critting a high pri-ority in both the US and Eu-

at Kicanweit Benson, said: "The direction growth is heading has been the key issue for the pos-months. It is increasingly clear now that it is getting weaker."

The US economy has shown no signs of picking up in reaction to the Federal Reserve's last reduction in interest rates, in



growth has proved to be a long halt. The policy outlook is complicated by the farcical budget Wall Street analysts think the

Utilities turmoil: Handout to shareholders helps to buttress power company against the threat of predator

London Electricity pays out £200m special dividend

MARY FAGAN and PETER RODGERS

London Electricity yesterday announced a £200m special dividend, taking its total exist-ing and planned distribution to shareholders to £700m. The move could benefit the former chief executive, Roger Urwin, by up to £100,000 from his reing shares. Other directors will share about £33,000 in all.

The £1-a-share dividend, which was immediately attacked by the Labour Party, is bound to be seen as a pre-emptive defence against a takeover bid since London is one of only four regional electricity companies that have not yet received an offer. But a spokesman denied that the give-away was to block a predator.

John Battle, Labour's energy spokesman, said: "In the brave new world of competition the balance of governance between shareholder and consumers is increasing tilted in don, said that it was not interfavour of shareholders."

Electricity of putting "those at for co-operation.

the top" first and of leaving customers at "the bottom of the cludes the value of London's heap". He added: "I hope this is not a sweetener to get sharebolders on board in anticipation of a bid."

Besides the special dividend which will carry an additional tax credit for pension funds - the company pledged to raise its ordinary dividend by 20 per cent in the year to March.

A spokesman for London said: "This is something the company would have done irrespective of whether there had been bid activity in the sector. We have been saying on more than one occasion that we feel obliged to return value to shareholders. This is precisely what we have been doing." Several bidders are thought

to be on the prowl still, including Houston Industries, the Texas utility. Last month Thames Water, which had been widely tipped

as the likeliest suitor for Lonested in a merger although it Mr Battle accused London would explore the possibilities

previous share buyback, worth £150m, and also the promised £350m distribution to shareholders of the company's stake in National Grid after it is floated next month. The shares

rose 19p to 933p. Sir Bob Reid, the chairman, said the special dividend delivered value to shareholders "while maintaining the compa-ny's ability to invest and devel-

A spokesman said the debtto-equity ratio would rise to 60 per cent by the end of the financial year next March and he denied analysts' claims that it could be 90 per cent by then. Apart from the £50 rebate to

consumers as part of the Na-tional Grid flotations which all the electricity companies are to pay – London has no plans to hand extra cash back to

amid continuing speculation over a bid for South Wales Electricity by Weish Water, which has confirmed that it is put a price on any bid until there



Delivering value: Sir Bob Reid said dividend would still allow company to develop

considering such a move. A was a "market value" estabmeeting between the two yes- lished for the National Grid The company's move came terday was inconclusive and Company, in which Swalec has mid continuing speculation described by Swalec as a stake and which is due for described by Swalec as

"disappointing".

flotation in early December.

PAUL WALLACE

Economics Editor

would want any bid to be agreed, could end up with gearing of over 100 per cent if it took over Swalec. Shares in South Wales Electricity fell 1p to Welsh Water said it could not Some City analysts believe that £10.30 yesterday and those in Welsh Water, which also said it Welsh Water rose 1p to £7.

Banker calls for early UK entry

into EMU

Home loans: Competition hots up and further cuts in borrowing costs expected

Mortgage rates set to fall again

NIC CICUTTI

The cost of home loans is set to fall over the next few months because of mounting competition among lenders and a likely fall in base rates, economists and housing analysts predicted yesterday.

Experts believe the fall may be of about 0.25 per cent, chopping about £10 off the monthby cost of a £50,000 mortgage. Both variable rates and longerterm fixed interest mortgages will be affected.

But any cut is not expected to match the drop in base rates, given the decision by lenders six weeks ago to cut variable rates to 7.99 per cent without a corresponding base rate reduction.

Ian Shepherdson, an economist at HSBC Greenwell, said: "There are two central processes at work. The first is the weakness in the housing market. "Although it is starting to improve gradually, this is in

British Gas has come under at-

tack for hampering a review of controls on its pipelines by the industry watchdog, Ofgas, writes Mary Fagan. Consultants to

Ofgas have accused the com-

pany's pipeline arm, TransCo, of delays in providing the necessary information and of "gaps" in the

The review of the pipes is cen-

tral to the development of com-petition as it will dictate how

much TransCo will in future be

able to charge rival suppliers to

use the pipes. The problems encountered with TransCo are nevealed in a progress report is

sued by Ofgas yesterday. The regulator also confirmed that Clare Spottiswoode, the direc-

tor-general of Ofgas, is consid-

ering scrapping the existing price-cap system and introduc-ing some form of profit-sharing

data when it arrives.

part because of the decision to cut mortgage rates since eptember.
What this implies is that

mortgage lenders are becoming like widget manufacturers: if sales are down you compete on price, among other things." Fixed rates were also facing downward pressure because of a reduction in gilt yields.
"The other factor will be the

effect of the Chancellor's Budget measures. If Kenneth Clarke can achieve tax cuts through night controls on spending, this will have a consequent effect on gilt yields, push base rates down and help cut mort-

that typically they have arrived later than the date originally re-

quested, and that the informa-

tion presented is incomplete and of variable quality." The consultants also expressed con-

cern that TransCo has said that

some of the information is still

"preliminary" and may need to be changed "in the light of fur-ther analysis".

replies to questions have also

been raised by Ofgas's other ad-

visers on the review, WS Atkins. The report says: "The submis-

sion of data so far is of indif-

ferent quality and does give risc

to some concern as to the ro-

bustness of planned capital ex-penditure estimates. There

seems to be little evidence of an

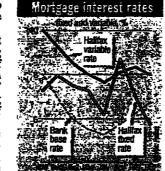
overall strategic approach to

Worries over TransCo's

gage rates."

David Kern, chief economist at National Westminster Group, added: "A week ago, I would

have said mortgage rates are likely to remain broadly flat. However, in the past day or so we have seen satisfactory inflation figures, leading to the pos-sibility that the Budget is going to be well-received. I expect this



will bring forward a reduction in interest rates.

There also has to be a need for the Governor of the bank of England to accept this scenario. But the picture does point in that direction: inflation is low, retail figures have been flat, unemployment is showing a slight rise ...
The secondary issue is the

A spokesman for the pipeline

company said that the criti-

cism was premature and hit

back at Ofgas for delays in is-

suing the original consultaton on the review. He said: "This

should not be seen as a tussic

between us and Ofgas. We have

provided 400 documents and

there will be more meetings soon to resolve outstanding is-

sues." However, he added:

There is some information

which we cannot supply because we do not know the direction and shape which Ofgas wants the industry to take."

The débâcie comes just

weeks after TransCo was forced

to back down over planned in-

creases in prpeline charges af-

ter an outery from rival

suppliers. Ms Spottiswoode told

the company to come up with

differential between mortgages and base rates. Until there is a

British Gas accused over review

Coopers & Lybrand, which is advising Ofgas, said: "Our view of the [TransCo] responses is A spokesman for the pipeline

definite upturn in the housing market, the pressure is for a narrowing of the gap between the

David Gilchrist, general man-ager at Halifax Building Society, said: "The prospects look quite good for a reduction. What we are seeing at the moment is that there has been progressive seg-mentation as lenders try to find themselves a niche, with a range of discounts for different class-

"We would prefer tax cuts to interest rate cuts as far as reviving the market is concerned. If there is any link, that of greater disposable income is the one most likely to move the

Earlier this week, Royal Bank of Scotland raised hopes of a fresh morigage war by dropping its fixed rate to 5.75 per cent un til February. But experts point-ed out that RBS was still more expensive than many building societies, and several centralised

fresh proposals and warned

that any increase would have to be proven to be justified.

ing North Sea producers and

electricity firms, said the

planned price increases would have squeezed margins enough

to put some people out of the market. They privately accuse TransCo of using its monopoly power to hold back competition.

dano, said there was "doubt" as

to whether the Government's

planned introduction of com-

petition in domestic supply next April could be met. He warned

that delays with legislation left

too little time for proper test-

ing of the systems. But the

Government is adamant that the scheme, initially involving

500,000 homes in the South-

west, should not be delayed.

Earlier this week British Gas's chairman, Richard Gior-

Other gas suppliers, includ-

if Britain stayed out of a mon-etary union, our trade in money and bond markets could be threatened if the European entral bank develops central trad-ing from Frankfurt". Graham Bishop, an expert on European monetary union at in-Salomon Brothers investment bank, said the fear was well-

from the head of a clearing bank

for UK participation in EMU.

However, Lord Alexander said he was not optimistic about Britain being in from the start.

"While I am sure that the UK

will be able to meet the con-

vergence criteria, I have doubts

that the current timetable will

leave room for the political

processes of consent."

Lord Alexander warned that

founded. "The dangers are that multinationals will centralise Treasury operations in the single currency and do that with institutions which can offer that

British banks could offer that facility to clients, he said, but would be less competitive by virtue of having to operate in wo books.

banks could find themselves handicapped in the single market if the UK stayed outside Britain should be in from the EMU. "I would indeed be constart if Germany and France go cerned if in any sense the bankahead with European monetary union, Lord Alexander, chairing single market began through practice or design to become reman of NatWest Group, said stricted to the same area as a yesterday.
Speaking in Frankfurt, he narrow EMU zone." made the strongest call yet

In private, top City bankers are worried about the possibil-



hairman of NatWest

ity that members of EMU would make life exceedingly uncomfortable for the City, par-ticularly through influencing financial services directives. Lord Alexander also spelt out

another fear in the City, that British banks could lose out to German and French rivals as retail banking moves from a national to a European scale. "With EMU, the retail banks which are currently national in Lord Alexander also expressed the worry that British consolidation pressures."

'Independent' Money on Saturday

in the Weekend' section today

 Sovereign Debt: you, too, can buy into the recovery 26 Secondhand jewels: bargains for shrewd investors 27 • Fund managers' secrets: F & C manager tells you

how he does it Motor insurance: getting extra cover for your car

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The most obvious ploy - a windfall utilities tax - has apparently been ruled out, but there are subtler artifices Kenneth Clarke can use to become the ultimate corporate

predator'

Raising feel-good billions by sleight of hand

With record receipts from corporation tax out – with one significant rider. The revenue in October and an over-riding politi- gain would be immediate because ACT is after the end of the company year. However, cal imperative to restore the feel-good factor, the temptation for the Chancellor to raid companies to pay for personal income tax reductions must be huge. The most obvious ploy - a windfall utilities tax - has apparently been ruled out, but there are subtler artifices Kenneth Clarke can use to become the ul-

timate corporate predator.

The pressure is all the greater since. despite October's bounty of a £7.3bn corporation tax inflow, the Treasury had expected still more this year and may face a shortfall of £2hn. Worse still, the increase in the corporation tax take is set to tail off sharply in the next financial year, as receipts respond to this year's profit slowdown. The Institute for Fiscal Studies is projecting a much more modest increase for 1996/7.

With Tony Blair currently wooing business, the Chancellor cannot afford to be seen increasing the burden on the corporate sec-tor by smash and grab. What is more likely is that he will exploit timing technicalities to boost revenue next year by sleight of hand.

One option would be to reduce the advance corporation tax credit paid to taxexempt institutions such as pension funds by another notch, from 20 to 15 per cent, while leaving the ACT rate at 20 per cent. The Chancellor could combine this measure with another cut in corporation tax from 33 to 32 per cent. The revenue gain and loss of about £1bn would roughly cancel each other

payable at the same time as dividends. The revenue loss, however, would not be felt until 1997-8 because of the nine-month delay in paying mainstream corporation tax.

Meanwhile the Government could present such a change as a much more effective boost to investment than Gordon Brown's proposals three weeks ago, by claiming it addresses the bias in the tax system towards high dividend payouts at the expense of retained profits.

When Norman Lamont took £1bn off the

pension funds the same way, by reducing the ACT tax credit to 20 per cent, share prices fell sharply, there was uproor in the City and there has been a long campaign since then to forestall a repeat. The institutions argue quite rightly that if their total flow of divi-dend receipts falls then so does the actuarial value of the pension funds, which even-tually have to be topped up again, largely by companies rather than employees. One way or another, the Government would be play-

ing with pension money. However, the tactic of off-setting the ACT change with a cut in corporation tax rates, to rebuild the resources of the corporate sector again, is probably the only way the Chancellor could seriously defend the move without losing his remaining friends in the

Another technical option would be to change the timing of mainstream corpora-

in several other countries, payments are made on a quarterly basis during the course of the company year. If the Treasury were to move to such a system in one year flat. the effect would be a staggering temporary boost to revenues of approaching £20bn. In practice, such a change would be phased in, in order to soften the cashflow impact on companies. He could easily get several billions out of the manocuvre - sufficient to finance more than 1p off the basic rate, Most voters would have a hard time understanding where he found it.

Doubts as electricity row comes to a head

The political row over the reorganisation of the electricity industry comes to a head next week when Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, decides whether to refer the bids by PowerGen for Midlands Electricity and National Power for Southern to the Monopolies Commission. Many believe his clearance of all the other bids so far indicates he will confirm open season by approving these two as well.

But there is a niggling doubt, at least partly because Mr Lang remains adamant that he really is treating the bids case by case, on their merits. It is still possible that these two bids, the most dramatic moves yet towards

Since a monopolies inquiry would be a complex one, focusing on matters such as the operation of the electricity pool - a subject few pretend to grasp - it would be surprising to see an outcome before the early spring. By then, the two target companies are more than likely to have been carried off by other predators.

Since there is no case for referring bids by foreign companies, Midlands and South-ern will have no protection at all. This threat of a foreign walkover has been widely can-vassed by PowerGen and National Power in their campaign to avoid a reference.

If there is one, Midlands and Southern would then have to pull an instant alternative out of the hat. The obvious step would be to create the first merger between two regional electricity companies. Southern has certainly said in the past it might be interested in such a move, which is the one to watch out for if Mr Lang does refer the cur-

Railway timetable steaming ahead

It may be hard for the Opposition and the I train-spotter brigade to accept, but the Government has privatised nearly half the railways already by value, with the £1.8bn sale

vertical integration between generators and electricity distributors, will be kicked into yesterday that it is about to delay the flotation of Railtrack from the April or May date now slotted in appear to be based on strategy documents written by advisers before the Tory Party conference, when Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, bit the bullet and announced the flotation date. Delay was an option that he discarded.

With the railway timetable steaming ahead, the more interesting question is whether the British Energy sale, slotted in for early summer, a few weeks after Rail-track, is still on schedule. The two most difficult privatisations the Government has attempted are set up for the same brief window in the summer.

British Energy, the merged nuclear com-pany, has told ministers that it could not possibly ready itself for an earlier sale in the spring, because of the mountain of paper-work required to transfer nuclear site

ficences to the new organisation.

There are other big issues still to be settled, including the debt burden. The Government is likely to keep this high deliberately - perhaps as much as £4bn - to prevent the company splashing out on takeover bids for electricity distribution companies. But that decision is a technicality beside the task of preparing a convincing valuation of the company's long-term waste liabilities for a City prospectus. If one of these sales is to be delayed or called off,

Internet shares race further ahead

MATHEW HORSMAN

Internet stocks in New York and London yesterday raced sharply higher for the second consecutive day, fuelled by a downgrading of software giant Microsoft by investment house Goldman Sachs:

According to City and Wall Street analysts, Goldman's decision to take Microsoft off its list of "recommended" stocks focused attention on small companies involved in providing Internet services.

The list includes companies likely to outperform the market by at least 10 per cent. Microsoft had been included ever since it came to market in 1986.

Shares in UUNet Technologies, the internet service provider, rose in morning trading by \$5 to \$95 on Nasdaq, and was still trading mid-day at about \$93. The rise had an immediate effect on UK-listed Unipalm, the Internet service provider, which is being bought

in an all-share deal by UUNet. In London, Unipalm shares rose to 110p to 865p, largely on the strength of UUNet's share performance in New York. The US company has offered 0.154 shares per Unipalm share, and has recieved acceptances in excess of 90 per cent. Since the offer was launched last month, the offer has leapt in value from

about 450p a share. "All the technology stocks are rising in New York," said one analyst. "There's an expectation that there will be high growth across the sector." The bestknown Internet stock of all,

Netscape, rose \$6.5 to \$107.25 by lunchtime.

The Internet, which can link computers around the globe, has attracted huge investment from hundreds of small companies in sectors ranging from access and navigation software to network development and graphics for "pages" on the In-ternet. Well-capitalised companies such as Microsoft and MCI, the US long-distance tele-phone operator, have also invested heavily.

The Microsoft Network was launched this autumn, helping to fuel the craze for Internetrelated stocks. But Goldman Sachs downgraded Microsoft in light of the "serious threat" posed by the smaller companies ware sector.

Richard Sherlund, author of the Goldman Sachs report on Microsoft, said the software giant had been slower than other companies to introduce products for the global com-puter network. He fears the company's rapid growth in the past 10 years may not be sustainable as competition in the Internet sector increases.

According to John Sidgmore, chief executive of UUNet: "It is not necessarily true that the big guns will win. Microsoft and Intel were small once, and they walked off with the cheese.'

UUNet is seen as a particularly strong player in the Internet market because of its focus on business customers and its alliance with Microsoft, under which it developed and operates an access network for MSN.

Silicon Glen: Foreign investment tops £2bn and Scotland now supplies one-third of Europe's PC output



NEC at Livingston: a major investor in Scotland and one of the largest customers for the new silicon wafer plant

More Japanese electronics jobs for Scotland

JOHN ARLIDGE Scotland Correspondent

Scotland's Silicon Glen - the electronics manufacturing area between Edinburgh and Glasgow - won its second big in-

estment of the week yesterday. Shin-Etsu Handotai announced a £160m expansion of its silicon wafer plant at Livingston, creating 235 jobs. The investment comes three days after Chunghwa, the Taiwanese picture tube manufacturer confirmed a £260m investment

deal at Mossend, near Glasgow. The Japanese company, the world's largest silicon wafer manufacturer, said it was investing in Livingston because of the success of its existing plant in the town which employs 300. Construction has started and production

should start late next year. The company will expand its range of silicon wafers - the bachips .The investment brings total Japanese investment in Livingston to more than £1bn. Many of the wafers will be supplied to NEC, which is building a £500m manufacturing plantnearby.

Together, Shin-Etsu and

Chunghwa have this week announced 3,500 new jobs in central Scotland, an area blighted by the shake-out of traditional 'smokestack' industries.

George Kynoch, the Scottish industry minister, said it was "another example of a company, which has already been here for a number of years, expanding its Scottish presence to take full advantage of the ben-efits which Silicon Glen of-

Katsunori Kubo, Shin-Etsu's managing director, said that the European semiconductor market was expanding sharply: "The project is a vote of confidence in our local workforce and we believe it will also have a beneficial effect on the local community, for the new jobs being created are high quality and long term. This commits the company to Livingston."

Shin-Etsu's announcement is ments in the area. Recent foreign investment exceeds £2bn. Scotland now produces 35 per cent of all personal computers made in Europe and electronic products account for 40 per cent of Scotland's exports.

Interactive Telephone in talks with creditors



Tim Renton: resigned as chairman on policy grounds

DAVID HELLIER

Interactive Telephone Services, a company that used to be chaired by the former arts minister Tim Renton, is negotiating with its creditors and founders about a possible financial restructuring.

According to City sources, the company is short of cash and is discussing ways of injecting new funds into it. Talks are said to be currently taking place with a variety of City in-

ITS was set up by the entrepreneur Nicholas Scarr and his not want to make any comment.

cousin Anthony Tait. According The former minister became into its last set of full accounts to volved in July 1992. He resigned June 1994, the company lost £3.9m on turnover of £2.3m. Shareholders' funds were £1.5m. The company's shares were traded until early autumn on London's Rule 4.2 market. That market has since closed and the company has not indi-

cated what it is planning to do. The company was always go-ing to be loss-making but the losses were greater than originally expected," said a City

Mr Scarr said the board did

as chairman in July 1994, stating that this was the result of a policy difference over the future direction of the companies. At the time he remained a shareholder of the group.

The company has attracted controversy over the years, especially when it emerged in 1994 that it was making around £12,500 a day out of handling telephone calls connected with the Rwanda emergency ap-

Opposition MPs demanded urgent action, claiming that, al-

fell within Charity Commission guidelines most people would be appalled to learn that firms could make such profits.

The charities involved in the appeal, said that using a commericial phone company was the only way to ensure all potential income was collected. Also that year the company had to suspend a telephone game offering a monthly top prize of £250,000 after sugges-

tions that it was running an illegal lottery. The company was eventually fined £750 and ordered to pay costs of £7,500.

Firecrest soars after Energis access deal

Marketing and Internet compa-ny Firecrest climbed 28p to 203p yesterday, on news of a deal with Energis, the telephone company owned by the National Grid, writes Mathew Horsman.
The deal will initially allow

20,000 subscribers access to the Internet for the cost of a local call, but the limit can be raised at any time. The company said the service would provide coverage of 87 per cent of the UK immediately. The service will cost £7.99 per

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free. Firecrest shares started their recent rise last week, on news that the company had won the exclusive right to Digiphone, a US-developed technology that allows users to make long-distance tele-phone calls over the Internet for the price of a local call. From just 67p, the shares rose to 158p last Friday.

Originally a marketing and promotions company, Firecrest branched out into Internet-related month, with no usage charges othbusinesses last year, when it acer than the price of a local call. quired Nethead, an access For those subscribers on cable networks that provide free local

National Express chief to retire National Express Group an-

to retire early for health reasons, writes David Hellier. Sources close to the company said Mr McEnhill, who has spearheaded the coach operator's recent expansion into airport and bus operations, was advised

by his doctor to retire early fol-

lowing heart problems. He had nounced yesterday that its chief major heart surgery a couple of executive, Ray McEnhill, 55, is years ago.

The board was informed of Mr McEnhill's decision a few days ago and is searching for a successor. It will look at external candidates, although Adam Mills, the company's deputy chief executive, is considered by analysts to be the favourite for the job.

Mr McEnhill, whose total re- The shares yesterday rose 3p to muneration package last year came to £306,000, has agreed to stay on until the board has chosen a successor.

After leading the manage-ment buy-in and then the flotation of the group in 1992 he owned nearly 1.7 million of the company's shares, according to

387p, still some way below the high for the year of 415p. In an attempt to steady the

market's nerves over the announcement the company said its operating divisions were all performing in line with expectations. Positive trends highlighted in its interim report had continued

at Eurodollar TOM STEVENSON

Third warning

Deputy City Editor

Eurodollar, the car rental group which came to the market in July 1994, saw its shares plunge yesterday after warning that second half profits would be even lower than a disastrous first half result which saw a plunge from £8.2m to £2.4m. The company blamed a sharp fall in car resale values and higher insurance premiums and said it would take " a considerable period of time to restore margins and profitability".

The shares, which were valued at 220p when Eurodollar came to the market, plunged 39p to 68p on the news, a 36 per cent decline. Yesterday's warning was its third in the past six months. When it last warned on profits in September, the company promised to maintain its annual dividend at 9.35p and it lived up to the first half of that pledge yesterday with a maintained 3.12p interim payout. cated by the end of the year. | There was a warning, however,

that it would "review the level of dividend payable, if any, at the year end".

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Ian Mosley, chief executive, said: "The depreciation burden is expected to increase further as a result of increased vehicle holding costs. Until very recently, we believe the effect would be one-off in nature and contained to the disposals of our 1995 M-registered vehicles. However, the further substantial drop in value in November was far in excess of even our worst expectations."

The sharp fall in profits in the first half to September reflected a jump in cost of sales from £12.2m to £21.0m. This blew a hole in sales, which actually increased from £43m to £48.7m. benefiting from an active corporate market where volumes and prices both increased.

That made up for a very weak domestic personal market. hit by low consumer confidence. Earnings per share of 3.63p (10.95p) just covered the interim dividend payout

Fears that rail sell-off will favour managers

RUSSELL HOTTEN

News that Resurgence Railways is the surprise first choice to win one of the passenger rail franchises has done nothing to dispel fears that much of the privatised network will simply be

sold to its managers. Unlike Resurgence, almost all the other private companies bidding for the first three rail franchises have been eliminated, leaving the field dominated

by management teams. Like much of the British Rail network that has been sold so ernment's commitment to far, management buyout teams

Red Star parcels, two of the three rolling stock companies and a catering arm have all been

Critics do not question the quality and expertise of the management teams, but ask whether their success indicates a lack of government faith in the privatisation process.

One executive interested in buying a franchise said: "Truly private companies have done well in the tendering process so far. You wonder about the Govchange the culture of BR."

cess after being passed up for one of the first rail franchises.

Failure to bring in new blood to run the franchises would hinder the need for new investment in the railways, he told the Independent. "The Government really only wants the network to be managed for the primary benefit of Railtrack and the rolling stock companies, which are being sold off to pri-

vate investors. Mr Sherwood had been

Such a view was echoed by adamant that the rail franchis-James Sherwood, chairman of es, which the regulator said Sea Containers, which has with- should run for seven years, drawn from the tendering pro- . could only operate economically if that timescale was lengthened to about 12 years to justify the necessary capital investment.

But it appears that the authorities are prepared to be flexible in their attempt to get the franchise holders to invest in the railways. It is understood that the management buyout team bidding for the London, Tilbury and Southend railway will be al-

lowed a 15-year franchise. The LTS team, which fought

and is the sole remaining can-didate, argued that a 15-year term was needed for the necessary purchase of an entire fleet of new trains.

The team, led by its director Chris Kinchin-Smith, fought off a group of local bus companies. GB Railways, a consortium led by Canadians Max Steinhopf and Michael Shabers, and Stagecoach.

Private companies are worried that the inside knowledge of the management teams means outside bidders have a slim chance of successfully comoff three private sector bidders peting against them.

An exception is Resurgence Railways, a private company that is favourite to win the franchise for Great Western Railway, which runs InterCity services from London's Paddington.

The likely bidder for the third franchise is a management team in partnership with a subsidiary of Generale des Eaux, the French water company. They will fight it out with National Express, the bus group. Sea Containers and Stagecoach had also bid. These first three franchises are due to be allo-

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THE INVESTMENT COLUMN Edited by TOM STEVENSON

Foundations in place for building recovery

The two building sectors, construction (which includes housebuilders) and building materials, have been among to 4 per cent after a year other bullish factors include a the market's worst performers over the

As the chart shows, the underpercompanies has constituent deteriorated. In that context it might attractive. seem a reckless call to suggest that the time has come to turn positive on

building shares. But it is a stock market truism that the time to buy shares is when the news is bleakest. This is doubly true for sectors as cyclically volatile as these -- according to one estimate, 80 per cent of a sector's outperformance occurs .180 in the first quarter of a change in sentiment, so it is plainly dangerous to wait for the turn before buying.

NatWest Securities, which has just 140

produced a weighty research tome on 120 the building sector, believes the time to go overweight is when the trend in a sector's fundamentals is getting less bad but before that trend has turned upwards again - and well before analysts have started upgrading forecasts

So after a dreadful 1995, what signs are there that things will start looking up in 1996, and which companies are likely to be the biggest beneficiaries?

First, according to Nat West, the current slump is due to a mid-cycle pause in the wider economy that will necessarily be short-lived. In other words, this downturn is

more like that experienced in 1985 be-

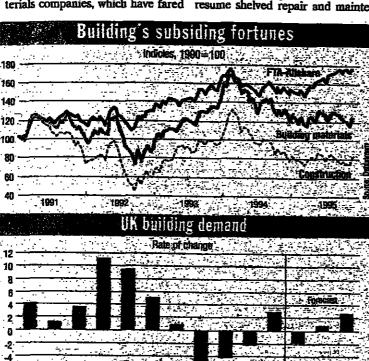
fore a resumption of strong growth, than the sharp downturn of 1989-92. The underlying economy is in reasonable shape, which should lead to a small increase in building demand (see the chart) of perhaps I per cent

rise by up to 4 per cent after a year of substantial de-stocking in 1995.

As a result of these trends, earnings growth will be faster in 1996 than 1995, formance has accelerated during 1995 a reversal of what analysts had previ-as the trading background for their ously expected, and that will make share price ratings appear increasingly

probable peaking in interest rates for the foreseeable future thanks to a slowing in the wider economy and the expectation of more active consumers next year. In short, growth should re-turn in the second half of next year. So who will benefit most? In the

That would not be difficult - the long term, a reversal of a decade of contracting sector is only 3 per cent off its all-time low and building materials companies, which have fared underbuilding as industrialists begin to expand capacity and householders resume shelved repair and mainte-



1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1894 1995 1995 1997

nance spending will help across the The net result is expected to be a \$1

In the short term, however, 1996 will be characterised by a re-stocking of housing starts that will favour the producers and distributors of building materials. BPB, CRH, Redland and RMC look interesting among the materials groups, with Meyer, Wolse-ley and Travis Perkins favoured among the distributors.

Oil giants on a slippery slope

After a relatively upbeat 1995, the prospects for the UK oil sector are on the skids again. New research from Nikko Europe, the broker, suggests the operating environment is getting tougher, putting pressure on earnings and dividends forecasts.

This deterioration will upset some of the industry's more optimistic estimates and cause the oil majors to undemerform.

Pressure on the oil price, which is being squeezed by a number of factors, and pressure on downstream margins will leave integrated oil companies such as BP struggling.

Nikko expects explorers such as Lasmo and Enterprise, with their now improved focus, to provide the sector's relatively safe havens.

The firm is predicting a further fall in the price of Brent crude, which has already been weak ahead of the Opec meeting on 21 November. As production from the non-Opec countries has been increasing, even a roll-over of Opec's quotas will lead to over-supply and pressure on prices. That will offset any rise stemming from a possibile oil embargo on Nigeria as a result of the current diplomatic fracas. and Lasmo look the most promising.

decline in the price to \$16 next year. Such a scenario would normally hit the exploration groups, but Nikko expects them to buck the trend thanks to increasing exploration expenditure

and the adoption of a more focused strategy. Lasmo, for example, has sold off peripheral interests. Hardy Oil & Gas has sold its Canadian operations and is considering pulling out of other areas such as Algeria and Namibia.

The benefits were evident yesterday when Hardy reported pre-tax profits of £254,000 for the six months to September compared with a loss of £634,000 last year.

Refining margins are forecast to im-prove after the grim levels seen this year where returns were affected by over-capacity. Whether that will make up for a less promising outlook on the forecourt, where increasing compe-tition from the supermarket groups is eating into the oil companies' market share, is a difficult call. In the UK the supermarkets groups such as Sainsbury and Tesco account for 20 per cent of the petrol retailing market. In France the hypermarkets have grabbed more than 40 per cent.

To combat this, the oil majors are having to improve their non-oil offer in petrol stations by adding convenience stores and selling a broader range of goods. BP has already enjoyed some success by doing this as well as weeding out poorer per-forming low-volume locations from its portfolio.

Of the oil majors Shell looks the most defensive with its strong balance sheet and yield premium. BP remains more highly geared and is on some sell lists along with Burmah Castrol and Total. Of the explorers, Enterprise

Simon Pincombe CITY DIARY

Al-Fayed seeks to share out the bruising burden

Earlier correspondence be-tween Mohamed Al-Fayed and Ropert Murdoch over the sale of the now-defunct Today newspaper shows the Egyptian to be a sensitive

Writing to express his high regard for the Australianborn media mogul on 12 September, Mr Al-Fayed said he had abandoned the idea of legal redress over his failure to secure the title "even though I know it will damage my hard-won reputation as Britain's champion litigator.

"My bruises are not so livid now," admitted the Harrods owner, who nevertheless is livid about the bills submitted by his advisers.

Lawyers and accountants don't come cheap and I ran up a bill of £100,000 in the abortive negotiations. I am not complaining. But if you were prepared to take a quarter share of the loss I would be delighted to dedicate the entire £25,000 to the Mary Hare Grammar School at Newbury which does such wonderful work for children with impaired hearing ... I am sure it would not make too

big a hole in your pocket." The plea falls on deaf ears. A poor turnout from the home team at yesterday's annual conference of the European Financial Marketing and Management Association in London. Only three British

companies turned up, contrasting strongly with the rest of Europe, which sent up to 40 delegates from each country. "Even the Andorrans are attending," squealed an organiser. It would appear that the British knew what was com-ing. The unfortunate Conti-

nentals found themselves sitting through an ear-bashing from BMS Bossard, the consultants, who told them that financial institutions had no idea how to sell life products. British bancassurers already knew that.



Shirt supply: Colin Firth's

Tension at the BBC ahead of Sunday's celebrity auction in aid of Children in Neco. Ariel, the Beeb's in-house magazine, reports unprecedented interest in one of the lots - namely the shirt worn by the actor Colin Firth (Darcy) after he emerged dripping and rippling from the lake in the recent production of Pride

and Prejudice.
Michele Kirland, the auction organiser, claims to have "begged for about 10 days and grovelled for another three" to persuade the costume designers to part with it. Apparently old costumes are never sold or given away.

Certainly the excitement has got to the verbally challenged Ariel. Women who swooned over Colin Firth in the role of Darcy during the series are clammering [sic] for a sight of this shirt, drools the mag.

A Treasury man for the past 25 years, David Butler, director of national savings, is the new chief executive of The Princess Royal Trust for Carers. The new charity aims to raise £25m from corporate donations to help long-term care workers, and out-going boss Liz Nelson says the ballet and opera-loving civil servant will have to be a red hot fundraiser. "It will be very different," says the 12-hours-a-day Ms Nelson.

Trenchant criticism of Cesar Pelli, the architect of the Canary Wharf tower, from an operative of Jaguar Building Services, the company that runs Britain's tallest office block. Some of the windowless storage rooms that are a feature of the tower's central spine do not have inside door handles - a discovery made by an unfortunate cleaner once the door had closed on

The poor fellow was posted missing, presumed dead, until omeone heard screams (faint, but desperate) apparently emanating from the fabric of the building.

IN BRIEF

Glaxo shrugs off lower Zantac sales

Glaxo Wellcome shares shrugged off an annual meeting trading statment pointing to a 5 per cent decline in sales of Zantac, its best-selling ulcer treatment.

Analysts said the downturn was in line with expectations. Underlying growth of the combined company's other treatments was 8 per cent in the 10 months to October, according to Sir Colin Corness, chairman, who added that the integration with Wellcome was on track around the world.

Redrow hopeful of building upturn

Redrow, the housebuilder that came to market last year, blamed continuing difficult trading conditions on the last two Budgets and said a gradual return of confidence in the housing market would depend on this year's. Speaking at the company's annual meeting yesterday. Stephen Morgan, chairman, said a combination of industry rationalisation and improved purchaser confidence should improve the medium-term outlook.

Investment column, page 24 Rolls wins third airline order

Cathay Pacific became the third airline in five days to place an order with Rolls-Royce for its Trent engine. The value of Cathay's order, for two Airbus A330 aircraft, is £30m to Rolls. The planes will be delivered in the fourth quarter of next year.

Brake to buy Forte subsidiary

Brake Bros, the supplier of frozen foods to the UK catering in-dustry, is to buy Puritan Maid, a subsidiary of Forte. Puritan is the principal food supplier to Forte's UK hotel and restaurant business and will continue to play that role for at least the next

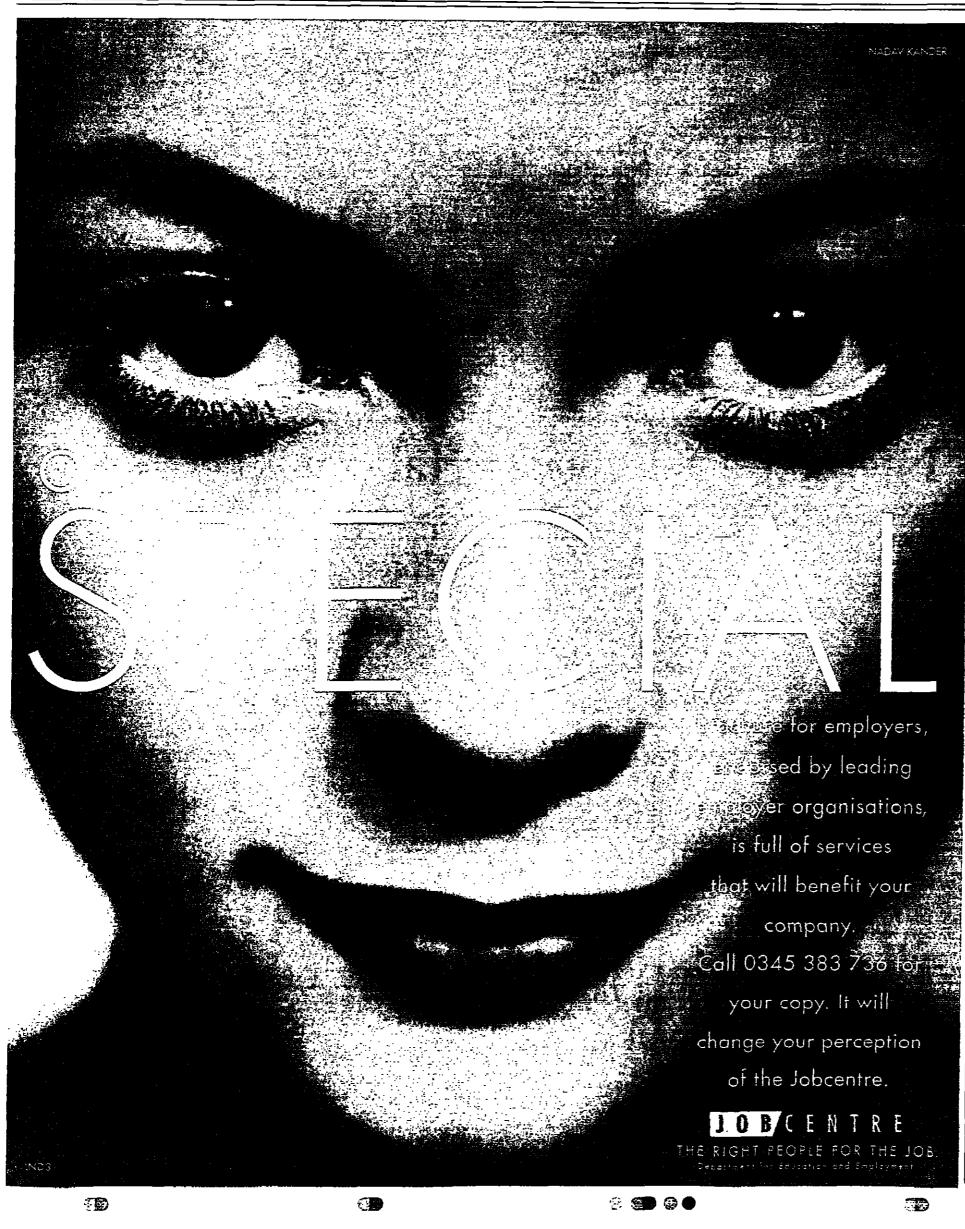
Mayborn in £5.3m rights call

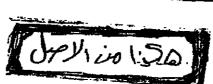
Mayborn, the baby products, fabric dyes and florists sundries group, is raising £5.3m through a two-for-15 rights issue at 210p. The issue, fully underwritten by 3i Corporate Finance, will reduce the controlling Samuel family's stake from 60 per cent to 53 per cent.

Union attacks Wimpey/Tarmac asset swap

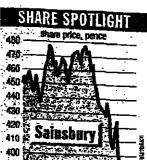
The Transport and General Workers Union hit out yesterday at the proposed asset swap between Wimpey and Tarmac, which a spokesman said underlined the failure of the Government to tackle the crisis in British construction.

	COMPA	NY RESULT	S	
	Tamover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Olyldend
Adem & Harvey (I)	27 Jm (23.8m)	2.54m (2.82m)	30.8p (38.6p)	11p (8.5p)
Chester Water (I)	3 13m (3 08m)	1.3m (1.23m)	7.3p (7.3p)	. 2.12p (1.95p)
Black Arrow (I)	10.5m (12.8m)	0.89m (1.13m)	2.260 2.80	1p (1p)
Herdy ON & Gas (f)	24.7m (26 1m)	0.61m (-0.41m)		n2 (nl)
Incepta Group (1)	12.2m (9 1m)	-0.30m (0.25m)		al (0.5p)
(F) - Final (I) - Interim	(M) - Name months			•





SEAQ VOLUME 684.5m shares. 35,552 bargains Gilts Index 94.73 -0.19



Another rush for the superstore check-out was the highlight of a stock market struggling to enjoy its recordbreaking burst.

plying about the sector's ability to hold margins as com-petition intensifies. Figures earlier this month from J Sainsbury came as an unpleasant surprise, underlining that the happy-go-lucky days of seemingly unstoppable pro-

gress were over. There was talk of cautious investment comments being prepared but the only observations to surface emerged at Kleinwort Benson which took

298p; Asda 4p to 99.5p and Tesco, which is seen gaining market share from Sainsbury,

12.5p to 283.5p.
The supermarket discomfort Doubts have been multi- has to some extent been masked by the blue-chip exuberance that has Jriven many shares to new highs.

It is not only Sainsbury which seems to have moved beyoud its investment sell-by date. Argyll has come down from 369p this year, Asda from 111p and Tesco 339p.

Others weak included Ice-land, off 6p at 154p; Kwik Save 14p at 596p and Wm Morrison



MARKET REPORT

Superstore prices tumble as investors rush to check-outs

DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter of the year

vember options contract, with two leading houses jockeying for position, than continuing in-

1.6 lower at 3,609.2 the market undertone remained confident. Talk of interest rate cuts is still in the air and many re-main convinced New York's record-blazing run, despite some hesitancy, is far from

ty's 100p dividend added 19p to 933p. The inconclusive negotiavestment buying.
Although the index finished tions between South Wales Electricity and Welsh Water

had little impact on the respective shares. Sears, the retailer, stumbled 2p to 100p as Merrill Lynch joined the downgrading march, lowering its forecast film to flism and saving

237.5p, but possible construction savings of up to £150m lift-

ed British Steel 3p to 166p. Astec (BTR), the electronic group, moved ahead 6.5p to 130p after its presentation and Vickers, also on an invest-

ment meeting, rose 3p to 266p. High-tech stocks produced some fun. Unipalm ended 110p higher at 865p as the value of its US bid continued to increase: Firecrest, following another internet deal, gained 28p to 203p. The shares have surged from 67p last week.

MAID was caught by a delay in its US listing, falling 15p to 301p. Dealings are now likely to start on Tuesday

BICC made further head-way, up 11p to 276p, on take-over talk and builder Redrow. said to be keen on Crest Nicholson, gained 3p to 128p.

Northern Leisure, a discotheque operator, reported

"usefully" higher profits and rose 4p to a 96p peak.

Aviva, the oil group, jumped 10p to 55p on bid talks and Beverley, an engineer, held at 1.25p as it confirmed a cash-raising exercise to deal with a record rush of orders. It is raising £850,000 via a placing and open offer at 1.25p.

Profit warnings hit Eurodollar, a car hire group, down 39p to 68p, and Epwin. ding materials group, 223p.

☐ Burford, the property group headed by Nigel Wray, gained 6p to 138.5p ahead of the demerger of its Trocadero operation. Dealings in the shares of the Piccadilly entertainment complex are due to

TAKING STOCK

start on 27 November. Burford shareholders will get Troc shares on a one-for-one

The property group will retain 29.5 pere cent of the en-Burford £96m last year and was valued at £115m in Sep-

CPL Aromas, a maker of flavourings and fragrances, has moved ahead this month, anticipating interim figures. The shares gained a further after Greig Middleton 3p to 353p, making a 40p improvement. They were floated provement. They were floated Free Inns put on 3p to at 150p in June last year. The with Teather & Green-suggesting profits of around £1.3m against

440 Sainsbury 420 Sainsbury 400 390 380 J J A S O N	a bearish view of supermarkets in general and Sainsbury in bre particular. Sainsbury fell 11p to 382p; the price has come down from 425p since the results and from a year's high of 479.5p. Argyll, interim figures later 3.6.	subdued day, taking a over. eather after its exertions is week which lifted the FT- White E 100 index more than 80 into to Thursday's peak. At one time Footsie was up 19 points to a trading high of 126.7. But the upsurge owed over.	the hesitancy, is far from The Budget remains a sell. Trading worries Rexam, the package 13p to 372p and Zell title of its glow, fall the presentation and the set's acceptance of its rian case, spuried 18.5p to p and London Electricity The colder weather the partish Gas.	Vero, an electronic parts maker, made a strong debut although there were muttering that the savage scaling down of applications had left some indicated to the shares reached	down 39p to 68p, and Epwin, a building materials group, 32p to 223p. Era, the retailer, firmed to 9.75p after Greig Middleton forecast year's profits of £2m; Surrey Free Inns put on 3p to 113p with Teather & Greenwood suggesting profits of £1.3m this year. flavourings and fragrances, has moved ahead this month, anticipating interim figures. The shares gained a further 3p to 353p, making a 40p improvement. They were floated at 150p in June last year. The interim profit is likely to be around £1.3m against £930,000.
Section Sect	September Sept	## Semon Eng ## 20 12 24 25 24 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25 25	less than six years old). By the year	54 71 1540 674 329 Emprore 01 74 154 184 245 59 181 262 674 59 182	Prices are an steriting except where stated. The yield is last year's dividend, grossed up by 3D per cent, as a percentage of the share price. The proc'extrings (PEI ratio is the share price divided by last year's earnings per share, exclusing exceptional items. Other details: we far rights a Ex-dividend a Ex-all u Unissed Securities Market Suspended pp Partly Paid pm Nill Paid Shares. THE INDEPENDENT INDEX The indivatilious you to access real-time share prices by phone from Scaq. Simply dial (889) 123 335, followed by the 4-digit code printed net to each share. To access the latest financial reports dial (889) 1233 followed by one of the two-digit codes below. FT-SE 100 - Real-time 69 Sterling Rates. 64 Privatisation Issues below. FT-SE 100 - Real-time 69 Sterling Rates. 64 Privatisation Issues 30 UK Company News. 62, Wall St Report 30 Electricity Shares. 39 UK Company News. 62, Wall St Report 30 Electricity Shares. 40 For assistance, call our belighted for the share including its portfolio facility, phone (889) 123 373. For assistance, call our belighted (1787) and 373 for assistance, call our belighted (1787) and 374 for assistance and assistanc

we're Bullish!

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Robins rejoices

INDEPENDENT - SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 1995.

New look to the

England's parts must add up to the total game

STEVE BALE

The flowering of English back play is a hardy-perennial ideal which is no nearer realisation now that South Africa are the opposition than it was when England were preparing for less menacing autumn matches against Romania and Canada a

long year ago. Such talk has become commonplace and therefore cheap, a los cheaper than the annual £30,000 it will cost the Rugby Football Union for each member of the England squad once the contracts are finally signed next week. This afternoon's match against the World Cup holders before 78,000 at

persuaded the players to put the grand signing in abeyance.

This reflects the twin track of modern, professional rugby: on the one hand the imperative for players and administrators alike to have their contractual arrangements resolved, and on the other the complementary need to get on with passing, or more likely kicking, an oval ball. The passing and kicking bit has rather been forgotten of late.

The England players are the privileged few in English rugby. because by RFU design they are the only ones this season entitled to receive payment for doing something they formerly did for love. That said, Will Carling and his cohorts are themselves looking enviously at the

the disparity with the world champions' purported £140,000. It is a new world that is not

wholly to the benefit of the players themselves. Megafixtures such as today's, grossing £2.1m for the RFU, will justify the players' existence as pro-fessionals and if - as they might well - they fail, the consequence could be not just to be dropped but to be reduced to a form of sporting penury.

Then there is the wider but associated imperative, the professionals' need to entertain a paying public, and, as this is something England teams have not been too good at, much of the pre-match debate has yet again revolved around whether this may be about to change.

predict? By selectorial design England are without the spine of their World Cup side, a choice which, however risky, does at least deprive them of the too-easy fallback position of achieving victory by bludgeon rather than rapier that has hitherto been too easy

for them by half. One might say literally so. As long as Rob Andrew was at outside-half standing back in that familiar comfort zone, protected by Brian Moore, Dean Richards and the rest, they had little reason - not in their own minds, anyway - of alternatives. Now they have an alternative, so now they must find a way to exploit their exceptional, and exceptionally underused, outside backs.

While it was happening,

everyone denied there was a

problem. Yet here we are six not the means by which it hapmonths after the World Cup and, all of a sudden, everyone agrees that there was.

pansively against Romania and Canada but when it came to the pressure of the Five Nations, and in the World Cup, we did revert to a more conservative game, captain Carling said. "I want to develop this style of ball-in-thehand against South Africa, in the Five Nations, under that kind of

Well, who wouldn't? The crashing disappointment of England's World Cup departure against a side - New Zealand playing a form of total rughy has opened English minds, though today's is another of those games in which the end of winning - and

pens - is its own justification. Just like when the All Blacks were booted to defeat in 1993. So it would be as well to reserve

judgement on Mike Catt's prospects as Andrew's outsidealf successor until he has experienced a less fraught occasion than this one against opponents for whom he once aspired to play. At least Catt, born and bred in Port Elizabeth, now has the opportunity to let his rugby do the ilking for him. His description of François Pienaar, the South Africa captain, as an "average" player was ill-judged not as an expression of opinion so much as in its crass timing. If, or probably when, Piensar, or more likely

Ruben Kruger, gets to him today

ENGLAND V SOUTH AFRICA at Twickenham Bath 15 A Jouber J Callan Wasps 14 J Olivier. antequins, capt 13 J Mulder ... Bath 12 H le Roux R Under M Catt. K Bracke Harlegums M Johnson

finished Twickenham Springboks and wondering at Robinson rejoices in long run

England's desire to expand their playing horizons has prompted a recall for an old-timer who is tailor-made for the modern game, says Steve Bale

ngland had become such a distant memory and such a remote possibility that Andy Robinson had intended this to be his final season. Then all of a sudden he bridged the six-year gap and now he wants to carry on

to the next World Cup in 1999. By which time Robinson will be 35 and if his preferred eventuality seems even less likely than his current international recall, then the very fact that he is back in the back row against South Africa at Twickenham proves that here is a man who should never be written off.

Graham Dawe, or Paul Ackford who wasn't capped until he was nearly 31, or Jeff Probyn: all great rugby forwards who in the twilight of their careers suddenly found everything went right for them." Robinson said. "I see myself in their sort of position."

aforementioned England trio is that they were all 'It's like being tight forwards for whom the speedy Capped again gadding-about which is Robin-for the very son's stock-intrade was not an first time. It's imperative. Still. as yet there is no an amazingly diminution in his powers; on the exciting thing'

contrary, it is precisely because he has been playing the best rugby of his life that he has been restored to selectorial favour after all this time, an open side of the old, once-discredited

school at 5ft 9in tall. It is timely, perhaps, to recall that Robinson was never actually dropped by England. Taken to Australia in 1988 as cover for Gary Rees while Peter Winterbottom was taking time out in South Africa, his conspicuous performances forced him into the team for the second Test when England played both Rees and Robinson, two open-side flankers.

That the experiment did not succeed did Robinson no harm, since there then began a personal annus mirabilis in which he appeared in the final tour match against Fiji and all the inter-nationals of the following domestic season which culminated in his choice as British player of the year and what seemed to be the end of his England career.

Those times are gone and it's difficult for me to compare," he said. "I'd like to think I'm a better player but the honest

Twickenham shows its new face

to the world for the first time

today, after being virtually com-

pletely rebuilt over the last five

The final part of the redevel-

opment, which cost £60m, was

put in place when work on the

West Stand was completed in

time to make today's interna-

tional the unofficial opening. The North, East and West

Stands have all been rebuilt to

leave a capacity of 78,000 all scat-

ed - 74,500 grandstand seats and

3,500 in corporate boxes. The

South stand was rebuilt in 1980.

LIZ SEARL

the same as I always have. What has changed is the way rugby is played and there's no question that the general trend towards trying to pass the ball before making contact with the tackler has been to my benefit.

"I've been flattered by the remarks people have been making about the way I've been playing this season but the trend away from running up blind alleys and to trying to keep the game more continuous has suited my ball-handling skills and ability to read the game. Simple as that, really."

This is characteristic self-"You look at someone like effacement. Robinson insists he never gave up hope of one day adding to his seven caps but there has been a more relaxed quality to his game this season which reflected an end to the anxiety of seeking selection - but paradoxically had quite the opposite effect.

of assistance, too, in his job of a year as director of sport at the 285year-old Colston's Collegiate School in Bristol, which, under Robinson, happens to be one of the finest rugby academies in the land. "The school,

sighed, "is working me hard. l have less time to train and that means my training has to be of higher quality to compensate for the decreased quantity."

The last time he was preparing for an England game as he has been for the past three weeks was for the mournful 1989 defeat in Wales which was more notable for Paul Thorburn's post-match gestures and remarks than anything Robinson - or England, or even Wales for that matter - did.

Then came the reckoning, when Winterbottom had made himself available again and served what was considered a decent stand-down period. England followed the Weish match by playing Romania after Robinson had been selected for the Lions tour of Australia.

He had played for Bath in the cup final and then, on medical advice, gave up his England place in order to ensure his recovery from a shin injury that would otherwise have threatened his Lions place. As it turned out, he was unfit for the entire tour and might just as well have played in Bucharest.
"As it happens, I don't think

Terry Ward, the Sheffield-

based architect, designed the

new stands to get people in and

out of their seats with the min-

Improvements to the North

stand began in 1990 and the

East - the highest in Britain at

100ft - followed in 1992. A sec-

ond sports goods and memo-

rabilia shop has been opened,

alongside the existing restau-

rants and bars, which include

what is claimed to be the

The official opening of the

new stadium is planned for 3

February at the England-Wales

game in the Five Nations'

longest bar in Britain.

mum of fuss.

judgement is that I'm playing Twickenham reveals

new look to the world



The running man: 'What has changed is the way rugby is played,' says Andy Robinson

it would have made any differ- England situation; it ceased to ence if I had played in that match because I don't think it would have changed the perception of the English management at that time. They were looking to get Peter back in anyway, because he fitted in with their idea of what an openside flanker should be with all the big hits and the greater line-

out presence.
"And even when he retired their perception remained the same, so it never really surprised me when I continued to be left out. In the end I became a lot more philosophical about the taking a gym class at the time

prey on me as it did for a while. At one stage I thought I was too small: then I thought I was too old. There was never any reason, not until this season anyway, to be encouraged. So now that it's happening it's like being capped again for the very first time. It is an amazingly exciting thing to be going through all those emotions again, right from the moment my wife came into the sports hall with tears in her eyes to tell me." Here's to you, Mrs Samantha

and she had the three Robinson boys - aged 4, 21/2 and 11 weeks with her. That such a happy family reunion had become possible was despite the alternative claims of another vertically challenged flanker, Neil Back of Leicester, not to mention the previous antagonism to

all such men. "Every time they picked Neil Back meant they were looking for something different, or even someone like me. The one area I've had to work on and improve is staying on my feet - and that's a strength for Neil and myself Robinson. Mr Robinson was because the bigger man patently

Photograph: Robert Hallan

has greater difficulty bending down to pick the ball up." And so to Ruben Kruger, the mighty forward he faces today. People like to pick faults and the line-out is the obvious area they pick on when discussing my play. But I can honestly say I've never had a problem at the back of the line-out. I expect Kruger

to have the ball thrown to him. "For some reason that's not something that happens too often against me in English rugby but, believe me, whatever they throw at me - or anywhere near me - I'll be ready." At last,

Kidd lays foundations for fresh approach

reports from Dublin

So begins another brave new dawn in Irish rugby this afternoon against Fiji at Lansdowne Road under a new coach, new manager and new captain, even if there have been enough false ones so far to make even the most optimistic rooster roll

over and bury his head under

the pillow. Nevertheless, the new coach Murray Kidd and his selectors have made plain their intention. The reconstructed side under the captain, Jim Staples, which features two new caps in converted lock Jeremy Davidson as wing forward and third Ireland v Fiji

generation scrum-half Chris Saverimutto, indicates a greater emphasis on fitness and current form. The selection of the Sale scrum-half alongside Paul Burke in a half-back partnership also points to the development of a more fluid game starting, well, not quite today, perhaps.

The Fijians love an open game, practically patternless and with the less set-piece play the better. With that in mind, it seems certain that the Irish will keep the game tight and rely on their set-piece play to pin the Fitians down.

The props Nick Popplewell and Paul Wallace - selected ahead of London Irish's captain,

Gary Halpin, after the latter was controversially pressurised into a club v country choice by the Irish management - will invariably be used as battering rams around the fringes. The half-backs, Burke especially, will be instructed to make his touch kicks count and so deny

opportunities. As their only specialist place kicker, Burke will have to be instrumental in giving the Irish enough of a buffer entering the last 10 minutes lest they face the kind of concerted Fijian onslaught which nearly did for

Wales last week. The Fijians show just two

the Fijians counter-attacking

changes, one in personnel and one positional, from last week and 12 changes from the second string losers to Connaught in midweek. Frano Botica has also been enlisted as a place-kicking coach in a bid to rectify one of the Fijians' typically flawed weapons.

WEAPOITS.
RELAND: J Steples (Harlequina, capti; R Wea-lecc (Carryowen), M Field (Malone), J Bell (Northampton), S Geoghegan (Balh); P Burke (Constitution), C Saverimetts (Sale); N Popplewell (Newcastle), T Kagettan (Do-prini), P Wallace (Backrock College), & Futcher (Constitution), N Francis (Old Behedere), J Davidson, P Johns (Dungar-rion), D Carkery (Terenire College). roni, D Carkery (Tetrure Colege).
FIII: F Rayasi (King Country); P Bale (Carlerbuy), S Sorovald (Welingon), Little (King Country), M Barl (Tavua); J Waqa (Nadinga), J Raulini (Eastern Districts); J Veletald (Ving Country, CRD). G Smith (Walkato), E Natistique (Surel), E Ralatani (Poverly Bay), A Nadolo (Sural), Y Tamachyabi (Brothers).
W Magierani (Countrick)

All Blacks with a point to prove

France v New Zealand:

IAN BORTHWICK reports from Paris

Faces have been long in the All Blacks camp this week, and the tension extreme as the New Zealanders attempted to pick themselves up from last Saturday's surprise defeat. The French press has been sent packing, all

training has been in utmost

secrecy and the formerly affable, smiling Laurie Mains has turned into the jumpy coach we saw at the recent World Cup. Still the All Blacks are very much under pressure and the only thing equalling their stress levels appears to be the aston-ishingly relaxed attitude of the French team in camp at Clairefontaine. "We didn't expect to win the first one, so we are all pretty laid back about the second Test," their captain, Philippe Saint-André, said. In

addition, yesterday the French manager, André Herrero, rescinded his decision to resign. The All Blacks have now lost three matches in a row to France, something which has rarely happened against any team, and the ect of losing four in a row has Sean Fitzpatrick and his

men visibly on edge. "That's certainly an extra motivation for us." he said. "But we are also aware that this is Laurie's last game as coach of the Ali Blacks and we would love to finish on a high. It is also the last game of our season and we are always judged on our last performance of the year."

Fitnatrick's challenge is not only to avoid a second humiliating defeat at the hands of a makeshift French side but also to prove that what the All Blacks achieved at the 1995 World Cup was not just an illusion, and that the brilliant attacking brand of rugby they played can be successful as well as entertaining.

It failed to happen in the World Cup final, it failed again in Toulouse last week; a further failure would almost certainly be the death-blow for the New Zealanders' bold new approach. Wherever they have gone in France the grounds have been bursting at the seams and today, for the first time ever, a touring side will fill the Parc des Princes to capacity.

Mains, however, remains adamant. "This is the end of an important four years of my life. Win or lose, the most important thing for me is to play with the same quality as we achieved early in the year.

The French line-up remains unchanged from that which won 22-15 in Toulouse, while the All Blacks have made several significant changes. At scrumhalf Justin Marshall, of Canterbury, wins his first cap. coming in for Stu Forster, while Liam Barry, a third-generation All Black, also wins his first cap

as open-side flanker. Michael Jones, still a talented footballer, but who no longer has the speed of the past, retains his place but moves to the blind side of the scrum where he has played most of the season for Auckland. Jeff Wilson, who injured his shoulder in the first Test failed to complete training on Thursday and has been replaced by Glen Osborne at full-back.
FRANCE: J-L. Sadourny (Colomers): E
NTamack (foulouse), R Dourthe (Dau), T Caststaighée (foulouse), P Saint-André (Montterrand, card); A Pensud (Bree), P Carborneau
(foulouse): L Benézech (Racing Club), M de
Rougenosint (Florier), C Califfano (foulouse), O
Merle (Montfermot), F Pelous (Dav), P Benetton, A Benezei (Aden), A Caronicati (Brue).

Martie Microterrand), F Pelous (Des.), P Benes-ton, A Benezzi (Agen), A Carminati (Enve). NEW ZEALAND: G Osborne: E Rush, F Burne, W Little (all North Harbour), I Lorny (Courtes); S Culferen (Southend), I Marashall (Zentebury); C Dowd, S Fitzpatrick (cap), O Brown, R Brooke (S Auckland), Jones (North Harbour), M Jones, Z Brooke (Auckland), L Barry (North

Scotland test revamped team

Scotland v Western Samoa.

reports from Edinburgh

Spare a thought for the likes of Kenny Milne, who retired from international rugby after the World Cup, when Scotland usher in the new professional era against Western Samoa at Murrayfield this afternoon.

For although the hooker cannot put a price on memories and experiences gained from representing Scotland 40 times over six years the actual remuneration for "promoting the game" was limited by any standards.

It would certainly strike Milne as ironic that three new caps and Hugh Gilmour, a clubmate who is sitting on the bench for the first time, will be well on the way to matching his career earnings by no-side.

To the chagrin of the Scottish Rugby Union, the international squad have not yet signed the contract they have been proffered which theoretically means they risk forfeiting the £2,000 which is being quoted for this afternoon's work.

Eyebrows were raised vesterday by the confirmation that Graham Ellis, who was to have been Scotland's stand-by hooker until injured at the first training session after the team officially assembled on Wednesday night, would not be getting a penny.

Jim Telfer, director of coaching and the man effectively calling the shots at Scotland's

final training session, dismissed all talk of lucre. "Contracts haven't been discussed this veekend. They'll be playing for the jersey and for the hon-

our of playing for Scotland." There are seven changes from the Scotland team which went down 48-30 to New Zealand last time out and two particularly conspicuous omissions. For the first time since 1985, neither Hastings brother will be playing in a Murrayfield international.

ng u-w ii-nd alf in-he ed Vir

The last two seasons have opened with resounding defeats for Scotland at the hands of New Zealand (51-15) and South Africa (34-10) and it would be a major disappoint-ment if a promising looking side to be led for the first time by Rob Wainwright did not come through by a comfortable margin against opponents ravaged by defections to Rugby League since the World Cup.

SINCE UNE WOTIG CUp.

SCOTLAND: R Shephord (Melose); M Doda,
G Townsead (Normampton), G Stalel (Melrose), K Logan (Stifing County); C Chalmers,
B Redpath (Melose); D Hilton (Batin), J Hay
(Hewick), P Burnell (London Scottsh), D
Cronin (Bourges), G Weir (Melrose), R
Wahnwright (West Harberoot, cart, S Reid (Boroughmun), I Smith (Gloucester), Replacements: H Gämour (Henor's FP), I Jardine (String County). G Arrastrong dine (Striking County). G Artestrong (Jed-Forest), S Campbell (Dunden HSFP), J Maneom (Striking County). S Brotherstone (Melrose).

(Meirose).

WESTERN SAMOA: V Patts (Vaisla); B Lima (Porsonby), T Vaega, G Leuapepe (Te Atani), A Telea (Petore); D Kellett (Porsonby), J Friemu (Wellington); M Milica (Cracio), T Leliasamaivao (Wellington), P Fatisiote (Courties), L Falaniko (Marst), P Leoveza (Apal, S Kaleta (Porsonby, P Leoveza (Apal, S Kaleta (Porsonby, P Leoveza (Apal, S Kaleta (Marst), B Latte, B Reich, B Latte, B Reich, B Latte, B Reich.



McRae's self-control crucial in final stretch

track over the coming four days hoping to acclaim the metamorphosis of a petulant, raw talent into the nation's first world rally champion. Colin McRae is that close, and that far, from ful-

The objective for McRae when he leaves Chester tomorrow morning is straightforward: he must be ahead of his Subaru team-mate, Carlos Sainz, when they return to the ancient city next Wednesday lunchtime at the end of the Network Q RAC Rally.

He has the pace, the geographical advantage, the support of two million spectators and the incentive. But will he have the self-control, the composure and the judgement to do only as much as is required and not blow it all in pursuit of the loud an-

This is, after all, the Scot with

the finale.

Many close observers, however, believe he now has the ma-turity to curb his natural inclination, restrain his emotions, avoid the one error that would automatically concede the crown to Sainz on the greater number of wins, and achieve rallying's supreme distinction. Significantly, so does McRae.

"Actually winning the rally is not important this time," said McRae, who 12 months ago became Britain's first winner of the RAC for 18 years. "The championship is the important thing. It's what I want. As long as I finish in front of Carlos, it doesn't matter if I'm third, fourth, fifth,

"I think I have been ap-proaching all the rallies that way this season. The crazy days are in the past. I sorted it all out in my head.

"If I'm lying second, 20 sec- not stage.

British sport's biggest audience will line 1.447 miles of road and the finale.

Derick Allsop on an extraordinary end to the finale. the rallying season which may see the crowning of Britain's first world champion

> You've got to protect what you've got at the moment. The chance may never come again. The chance would have been

better still had David Richards, the director of the Banburybased Subaru operation, not taken his "commercial decision" in Spain. Richards also seeks the manufacturers' title and it was suggested the locals would sabotage McRae's bid if he did not yield to Sainz.

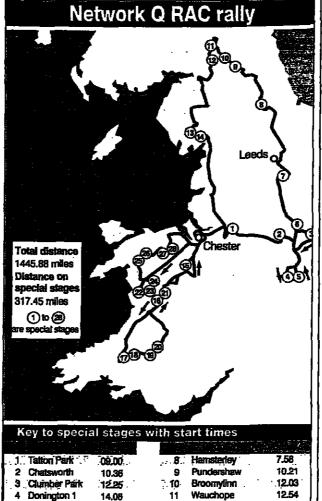
McRae made no attempt to disguise his wrath and Sainz was offended by the slur on his countrymen. Add to this little plot Sainz's intended move to Toyota and that team's suspension for a year, and you have a drama even Formula One could

an instinct for the spectacular, onds behind the leader, I won't the Scot once dubbed "Mc- be pushing if I don't need to. tween Carlos and me," McRae nothing stupid this year," said Crash", and the Scot more reThere's no way I'm going to take said. "We were both upset and cently incensed by team orders any chance if I've got the my only regret is not discussing be the youngest champion. "If When you have won two titles next season, and Tommi Māki-

we would have agreed to ignore team orders. He would have be nowhere near at the end.

been happier with that. The problem between us is not healed but the decision was nothing to do with us and we'll still talk and help each other out on the rally. As for myself and David, a lot depends on what happens at the RAC. If I win the championship now it will be even more satisfying, but if I lose it by a few points then will be on my mind I could have been coming here with a 10-point advantage.

McRae and Sainz are conscious it will also be on the minds of partisan spectators, out in the forests. Sainz reported logs had been placed in his path last year and the fear of further intervention disturbs both men.



Loous .	17.02	14		17.46
Dyfnant	7.30	22 -	Pantperthog	.07.38
Hatren 1	09.03	23	Dyfi	80.80
Brechia	11.34	24-	Gartheiniog **	08.43
Trawscoed	12.29	25	Penmachno S	10.47
Crychan	14.16	26	Penmachno N	11.08
Cefn	14.43	27	Clocaenog W	12.25
Hafren 2	16.48	28	Clocaenog E	12.37
ould take mos	at of it away.	some	pressure, but b	e is a goo

.12

Kershope

Grtzedale W

driver and it shouldn't be a prob-

lem for him. I said last year

Britain had a potential champ-

ion and you can see it this year.

He has become more consistent.

You have to be quick, but you

don't have to make mistakes. It

McRae returns the compli-

ment: "Consistency is one of

Carlos's strengths, also. He

doesn't let situations rev him up.

He's cool and calculating. He

thinks about the whole champ-

ionship and not just that par-

ter still. There's no one tougher

in a head to head. Put it this way,

if I was a team boss I'd go for

him. Carlos has proved himself

and that's where I want to be."

the drivers' title could, of

course, undermine the team's

ambition in the manufacturers'

This domestic difference over

ticular event.

comes from experience."

13.42

I'd never know whether I could have won it in a straight fight, and that's all I've ever wanted." Sainz, who recovered from a

Donington 1

Donington 2

14.08

14.21

shoulder injury sustained in a mountain bike accident five months ago to challenge for a third title, said: "What makes me upset and worries me is all this publicity that the people in Spain were against Colin, It is absolutely wrong. The people were very correct and he said nothing happened to him.

"The only thing like this was last year here. I found some logs, but you cannot make a judgement on the whole country for two stupid people. I hope no one will be stupid this year. Apart from that incident, the people here have been very sporting." Regardless of outside forces,

Sainz, with three wins to McRae's one this season, maintains the odds are against him. "I think Colin is the favourite because we are here," he said. "In my favour, I suppose, is that hands of Mitsubishi's Kenneth When you have won two titles next season, and Tommi Mākito forfeit the Catalonia Rally to championship in the bag. Next it with Carlos at the time. From I was to win the title through you have a bit less pressure. Sainz and so share the lead in year could be a disaster. I could what he has said since I'm sure something like that happening "Of course, Colin will have

nen. McRae's principal concern.

Mixed day for Mushtaq on his comeback

Australia 267; Pakistan 33-2

Mushtaq Ahmed, the Pakistan leg-spinner, suffered mixed fortunes as the tourists recovered some pride on the first day of the second Test against Australia in Hobart. The Somerset player, recalled

by Pakistan following their humiliating innings defeat in the first Test, claimed career-best Test bowling figures as Australia struggled to 267 all out. However, Mushtaq's celebrations were cut short when he returned to the wicket as nightwatchman only to suffer a first-ball duck as Pakistan reached 33 for 2 in reply at the

That was a second wicket in successive balls for Australia's pace bowler Glenn McGrath after he removed the opener Salim Elahi for 13.

Mushtag, who replaced the off-spinner Saqlain Mushtag, completed his first five-wicket Test haul with the wicket of tralia's resistance with 88.

Mark Waugh, who led Aus-Steve Waugh, the all-rounder Greg Blewett, the wicketkeeper Ian Healy and the pace bowler Paul Reiffel also fell to Mushtaq's

wiles. He finished with 5 for 115 from 30 overs, eclipsing his pre-vious best of 4 for 121 in the third Test against Australia at Lahore Maguire

Bula next targ

coulton's chai

Mark Waugh hit his fifty in just 61 balls before curbing his natural aggression as he tried to hold the innings together. He eventually lofted a catch to Ramiz Raja in the outfield to end a 223-minute stay at the

(First day: Australia won toss AUSTRALIA – First Irnings A Heaty c Basit All b Mush Refiller c Mohammad b M ras. (b3. lb9. nb5)

Total (78.3 overs) 267 Fail: 1-0, 2-68, 3-111, 4-156, 5-156, 6 211, 7-235, 8-238, 9-244.

Rame Raje not out Extres (lb1) Total (for 2. 9 overs Fall: 1-24, 2-24.

Salisbury takes six as Pakistan totter

Pakistan A 137 England A 15-0

lan Salisbury took 6 for 39 in Multan yesterday as England A celebrated a superb opening day in the first "Test" against Pakistan A in Multan.

However, the Sussex legspinner was the first to pay tribute to the contributions of the pace pair, Ed Giddins and Dean Headley, as Nasser Hussain's side reached 15 without loss in reply to Pakistan A's 137

"Beating Carlos for the championship would make it bet-The portents did not look good when Hussain lost the toss and the Pakistanis claimed the first use of a near-lifeless pitch. We wanted to bat ourselves but Ed and Dean really set standards in that first hour," Salisbury said. "Ed picked up a couple of wickets too - that was championship, playing into the a great effort."

Giddins struck with succes-Giddins struck with successive balls in his sixth over, while Salishury trapped his first vice. Seem, E.S. H. Giddens. Salisbury trapped his first victim in the last over before junch

Bowling (to date): kabir khan 1-0-10-0;
Mohammed Zahd 1-0-5-0.

short attempted googly was pulled by the Pakistan A captain, Asif Mujtaba, to midwicket, where Anthony Mc-Grath pulied off a brilliant one-handed catch.

However, Salisbury's skill was more responsible for the afternoon tumble of wickets and, at tea, Pakistan A were in disarray at 125 for 8.

(First day of the, Pakistan A won to: PAKUSTAN A - First lemings Mohammad Ramaan tow to Giddins Shahid Arwar o White D Salsbury Shadda Kebir o McGratin b Giddins veed Rana run out am Raza b Headley lasım Yousif c Irani b Salisbi deem Khan c and b Salisbi National Conference of the Salesoury of the Salesoury of the Salesoury of Mohammad Zahrid not out of the Salesoury of Sale

V knight not out ER Gallian not out

Football 3.0 unless stated **GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE**

Morecambe v Dover ...

ICIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Bishop's Purfeet v Yeowi; St Albans v Aylesbury; ton Utd v Molesey, Walton and Hersh Bromley, Worthing v Yeading First Divit Abingdon Town v Berkhamsted; Alders Adoniz Bratin Rovers v Bernamister; Aldershot v Marlow, Barton Rovers v Heythodge Switts; Billencay v Basingstoke; Bognor Reggs v Wernbley; Chesham v Bartong; Leyton Pennant v Wokingham; Russip Marior v Urbindge; Stanes v Ostord City: Thame v Maderthead, Whyteleife v Tooting and Mitcham. Second Divisions: Edition v Obserior. Witham v Stations

rock: Leves v Heriford; Southall v Cove.
INIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Bernber Bridge v Buuton; Barrox v Spermymoor.
Bishop Auckland v Accrington Stanley; Boston
Und v Mauock: Droystelen v Chorley; Guseley
v Hide Uld; knowsie; v Blyth Sportans; Leek
v Winstord; Marine v Frickley; Wirton v Ernley, First Division: Airfoton v Great Harwood;
Curzon Astron v Netherled; Fleetwood v Bradford Park Awenue; Gretina v Harrogate Town;
Leigh v Congelton; Lincoth United v Atheritan
UP; Radciffe Borough v Worksop; Warrington
v Esstwood Town; Whitley Bay v Lancaster;
Workington v Astrian United.

Globrester v Baracick, Cardesend v Risingert, Marthyr v Gresley, Neuyont AFC v Chelmsford; Salisbury v Halesowen Town; Sudbury Town v Cheltenham; VS Rugby v Hastings. Midliand Divisions Bilston v Solhull Borough; Bury Town v Redditch; Corby v Bridghorth; Eveshert v Hinckley Town; Grantham v Sutton Coldhold; Moor Green v Betworth; Nurseaton Borough v Budungham Toen; Paget v Dudley; Raong Club Warwick v Tamworth; Rothwell v Letes-ter Unined; Stourander v Kings Lynn, South-em Division; Ashtord v Yale, Bashley v Forest ern bwrsann; Ashtord v Tate, Bashkey v Forest Green Rovers; Branuree v Mangste; Cinder-ford v Erith and Belvedere; Fareham v Trow-bndge; Hawart v Fisher; Newport low v Waterloonile; Sittingbourne v Clevedon; Tor-bndge v Weymout; Weston-super-Mare v Fleet, Waters v Poolo.

with the very superior of the UNITET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Di-

United Sussistant County Leadage Prins or vision: Combinencing v Eastbourne Town; Hor-shari YMCA v Timee Bridges; Langray Sports v Pagham; Mile Qak v Ringmer; Calwood v Southwick: Portfield v Halisham; Stamco v Has-socks John O'Hera League Cup third round: Langry v Anundel. NORTHERING V AURON.
NORTHERIN COUNTRIE EAST LEAGUE Premier Division: Ashfield v Molitby, Hatfield Marn
v Hallam: Liversedge v Pickering, League Cop
socond round; Amold v Pentgete; Denaby v
Glassfroughton Wolfare: Hall Road v
Eccleshil: Harrogate Railway v Immingham;
Worsbrough Bridge v Bidworth Welfare. JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Divi slon: Great narmouth v Haistead; Havefull omestoft v Tipiree: March v Comard; Sudbury Town: Stowmarket v e: Varion v Sudbury Wanderers.

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE INTERLINK EXPRESS MEDILAND ALLIANCE: Balenati v Shinal; Bolehali v Shipanhili; Chase-town v Rocester: Halesowen Hamers v West Mullands Police; Kyngesiey Victona v Oldbury; Stratford v Sandwell Borough. 3.0 unless stated

Stratford v Santowell Borough.

HEREWARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE
Premier Division: Boston v Kernaston; Bourne
v Long Buddy; Cogamhoe v Spalding: Eynesbury v Muriees Blackstone; Northampton
Spencer v Potton; Starnford v Desborough;
Stewarts and Uloyds Cotty v Newport Pagnell;
Stortold v St Neotes Wellingborough v Holbesch. GREAT MILLS LEAGUE Promier Division: Caine v Elmore: Credition v Brisington: Frome v Westbury, Odd Down v Backweit; Tiverion v Bristol Manor Farm.

Bristol Manor Farm.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE
First Division: Ferryhil v Stockton.

FROERATION BREWERY WORTHERN LEAGUE First Divisions Fernyfill v Stockton.

FA CARLSBERB WASS Second round: Guisborough v Crook; Yorkshire Arnateur v West Auckland; Witterton v Normaleron: Briggs v Tow Law; Setty v Billingham Symbonas. Shidon v Mossley, Hebbum v Ossett Albon; Chester-le-Street v Whitcham; North Fernby v Oldhem Town; Citiheroe v RIM Newcaste; Seaham Red Star v Peterlee Newtown; Durston Fb v Cammel Land; Phistinoe v Goole; Easington Cotkey v Ossett Town; Murton v Consett; Thackley v Ossett Town; Murton v Consett; Thackley v Ossett Town; Murton v Consett; Thackley v Rushal Olympic; Nuthal v Bloidmere St Michaels; Oakham v Lye; Raunds v Hinckley Athletic, Willian va Bloowlet; Traifind v Darlaston; Marie Road v Eststwood Henley; Pelsall Villa v Banwell; Northwood v By; Harmoton v Hachnall; Belber v Bloowlet; Traifind v Darlaston; Marie Road v Eststwood Henley; Pelsall Villa v Banwell; Northwood v By; Harmoton v Ware; Brackley v Aveley; Des v Henne Bay; Burgess Hil v Wootton Blue Cross; Coller Row v Woethoe; Sade Green v Berdon; Wisboch v Werthoe; Sade Green v Newmarhet; Ameson and Parkeston v Tilbury; Langford v Whitstable; Witcham v Harmoth and Parkeston v Tilbury; Langford v Whitstable; Witcham v Harmoth and Parkeston v Tilbury; Langford v Whitstable; Witcham v Harmoth and Parkeston v Editors; Horsham v Parkeson; Witherhamk; Conwritian; Burntam v Windsor and Elon; Gorleston v Fakerham; Peacehaven and Telsonnber v Harmoth; Burntam v Windsor and Elon; Gorleston v Fakerham; Peacehaven and Telsonnber Harmoth and Parkeston v Editors; Horsham v Chichester; Dorleng v Bishop Sutton; Goddirming and Guidford v Mangetsfeld; Wimbone v Toungeton; Crantegly v Bansteed (1, 45); Wick v Chapenham; Peacehaven and Felonier Division: Ands. v Cultonelle; Gleintoran v Cultadens:

SMIRNOFF BRSH LEAGUE Premier Division:
Ards v Cutromvile: Glentoran v Cusaders;
Luriied v Glenson: Potadown v Bangor. Finat Division: Carrick Rangers v Ballymena; Coterane v Ornagh; Lume v Distilleny; Newty v Ballyclare Comrades.

v compcare Comrades.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry Town v Rhyl; Cemaes Bey v Caernarion; Cornah's Quay
Nornads v Inter Cardiff; Corney Afan Lido; Combran v Holywell (2.30); Ebbs Valle v Caerses;
Firnt v Bangor City (2.30); Lianelli v Tom Pentre; Lensantificad v Porthmadog, Newtown v
Abervsburn.

Apersowym.

PRESS AND JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE:
Budder Presste v Peterhead: Cove Rangers v
Deveronsels: Elgin City v Clachnacuddur. Fort Wiffern v Fraserburgh (1,45); Kerth v
Lossiemouth; Nalm County v Hurtly; Ruthes
v Brora Rangers; Wick Academy v Forres

SCOTTISH QUALIFYING CUP Finel (Sour Annan America Whitehill Welfare (at Painston Park, Dumines). euro Pern, Dyminesi, EUROPEAN UNDER-18 CHAMPIONSHIP Group 13: England v Sweden (at Rookingham Rood, Netternië).

Rugby Union

(at Murrayfield, Edinburgh) CIS COUNTY CHAME UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP North-em Group: Durham v Cumbna (2.15) (at

Today's pools check

A CARCING PREMICESTRE

A Ston VIII a V New Castle

Blackburn v Nortingham Forest

Blotton v West Harn

Luesto v Chelsea

Luesto v Chelsea

Luesto v Chelsea

Luesto v Chelsea

S Lueston

S Man Utul v Southampson

7 Sheff Wed v Manchester City

B Tottenham v Arsenal

9 Wintblegon v Middlesbrough

ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION 12 Luton v Burningham 12 Milwali v Huddersfield 14 Port Vale v Watford

SECOND DIVISION

Aytony: Northumberland v Cheshire (2.30) (at

Movocastriansi.
HEINEXEN WELSH LEAGUE First Division:
Aperallery v Aberaxon (2.30): Bridgend v Treordry (2.30): Neath v Swarrsea (2.30): Newbridge v Cardiff (2.30): Nexport v Etha. Vale (2.30): Pomyrodd v Llanelii (2.30): Second Division: Bonymaen v Cross Keys (2.30): Dunvarit v Ystradiginias (2.30): Llandovery v Llanharian (2.30): Pontypool v Abercymon (2.30): South Walse Police v Marsteg (2.30): Tentby Lid v Caerphilly (2.30):

South Wales Police v Marsteg (2.30); Tenthy Ind v Cerephily (2.30).

CLIB MATCHES: Barling v Scicus (2.30); Barli v Coventry, Berny Halv Shreborne (2.30); Barli v Coventry, Berny Halv Shreborne (2.30); Barli v Northampton (12.30); Burton v Walssal (2.15); Centhome v Taunton (2.30); Hoft by v Leeds (12.30); Gloucester v Berlibrit; Harnogaie v Derfiteid (2.15); Hevent v Reading (2.30); Hernley v Barluny (2.30); High Wycombe v Barluny (2.30); High Wycombe v Barluny (2.30); High Wycombe v Rasingstoke (10.30); Hendel v Sale (2.30); Lichfield v Leemington (2.30); London Weish v Saracers; Lydney v Brand Sheet (12.35); Moseley v Rossin Park (12.15); Nottingtem v Morley, Numeaton v Brandford and Bargley (2.30); Origey v Huddersfield (2.15); Person Grasshopers v Rugby (2.15); Rottmond v Bod-health, Sandal v Carry Het (2.15); Sheffield v Liverpool St Helens (2.30); S hies v Redruch (2.30); Walsseled v West Hardspool (2.30); Walsseled v Nest Hardspool (2.30);

Hockey

Mackey
Men's National Leadle First Division: Canmod v Surtion (2.30); Cameroury v Teddington (12.0); East Grastead v Bournaille (2.0);
Quildind v Barbod Tigots (12.30); Havant v
Hourslow (2.30); Hull v Southgate (2.0);
Indian Gymhana v St Abars (2.0); Old
Loughtonse v Reading (1.30); Stoupport v Trojars (2.0). Sectod Divisions Cay of Portsmouth
v Brooklands (1.30); Concaster v Sea (2.0);
Eddheston v Firebrands (12.30); Gloucester City
v Otton and West Warnelse (1.45); Harfeston
Magnies v Browtiey (12.30); Oddrod University
v Beeston (2.30); Rochmond v Corph. (2.0);
Straffield v Bluehearts (2.0); Slough v Hampstead and Westmanster (2.0).

Buskerthalf
BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Lecester Ruders v Deneaster Fartines (*1.30); Bererastie Correct v Deneaster Partines (*1.30); Bereragham Bullets v London Towers (*1.30); Hemel Royals v Tharres Valley Tigers (*1.30); Worthing Bears v Manchester Gaoris (8.0).
NATIONAL LEAGUE Meen's First Divisions Carifff v McG Susses (8.0); Ottara-Woodale v Were (8.0); Pymouth v Coverdy (*1.30); Solen's Bury (8.0); Women's First Divisions Baying and Dagerham v London (*1.15); Worthampton v josech (*1.30); Fhondas v Bringham (6.30); Tyne and Wear v Nottingham (2.0). Rasketball

22 Bristof City v Cartisle 23 Crewe v Swansea 24 Notis County v Chestarfield 25 Peterborough v Oxford Utd 26 Shrewsbury v Burnley 27 Stockport v Swindon 28 Wresham v Rotherham 29 Wycombe v Bristol Rovers

THIRD DIVISION 30 Cardiff v Bury .. 31. Darlington v Scurithorpe 32. Doncaster v Colchester

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PRÉMER DIVISION 42 Falkirk v Partick 43 Kilmamock v Motherwelf. 44 Raith Rovers v Aberdeen. FIRST DIVISION 45 Dumbarton v Chdebank

ice hockey

BRITISK (LEAGUE Premier Division: Cardet Deviks U burham Wasss (6.15): File Pijess v Storgh Jets 77,151: Mitton Keynes Kings v Newcastle War-nors 16,301: Nottorgham Parthers v Humbersde Seahawks (6.301: Pirst Division: Brachnell Bees v Murravifield Royals 16,01: Dumhres Vikings v Standon Widdcas 17,307: Medway Bears v Pas-ley Prates (6.01): Peterborough Prases v Guid-hord Rames (5.301; Telford Tigers v Manchester Storm (7.301.

Other sports

BOWLS: European Team Championships (Jer-Seyi.

BOXXING: WBO light-flyweight champonship: Paul
Werr (Sco., holder) v Boby Jake Matibal (SA)
Hidehin Hail, Glasgowi.

SMOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance LIK Champonship (Guidt Hall, Preston).

SWEMINENC: Grand Pric meet (Liknester).

TEMMINE: Tabana Marmont. Challenges (Cal-TENNES: Texaco Women's Challenger (Edm

TOMORROW Football

BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND Premier Division: Deny City v Shelbourne (3.15); UCD v Galvay Utd (3.15)

Rugby League

KULDDY L-GARGURE
STONES CENTENARY CHAMPIONSHIP: Leeds
v Sheffield (3.0): London Broncos v Warrington (2.30) (at Maricquires RFC; Oddharn v Casdeford (3.0); Wagan v Workington (3.0). Finat
Divisions Batley v Rochdate (3.15); Detrobury
v Watnes (3.0): Feetherstone v Hall (3.30);
Keeghley v Huddierstield (3.15); Whachaven v
Wakneseld (3.30). Second Divisions Cortisie
v Chorley (2.0): Ooncaster v York (3.0); Pub
KR v Barmon (3.15); Humblet v Leigh (3.30):
Swinton v Highfield (3.0). Rugby Union

UNDER 21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP North-UNDER 21 COUNTY CHARMIONESHIP North-ern Broug: Laracsinie v Vorishie (2.15) (at Withes). South-West Pool One: Dorset and Wits v Oxfortshire (2.30) (at North Dorset). Pool Two: Devid v Commall (2.30) (at Devo-port Service): Goucestershire v Somerast (2.30) (at Chelterham). South-East Pool One: Eastern Countes v Middlesse (2.15) (at Berl-ing); Rent v Hampshire (2.30) (at Westcombe Park). Pool Two: Hertfordshire v Army (2.30) (at Old Verulamikins); Surrey v Susse. (2.15) (at Old Verulamikins); SECOND DRVISION 50 Berwick v Queen of the South .

THERD DIVISION

FA CARLING PREMERSHIP

Queen's Park Rangers v Coverstry (4.0)... ENDSLEIGH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Lercester v Tranmere (3.0)... Norwich v Ipswich (3.0)...... Southend v Crystal Palace (2.55)... BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE Hearts v Hibernian (1.0) ...

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Comwall v Chef Constable's XV (2.30) (at Percance-Newlyn). TENNENTS SCOTTISH CHAMPHONSHIP First Divisions: Hawks v Edinburgh Academicaba (2.0); Henot's Fiv Stirling County (2.0); Warsomans v Boroughmur (2.0), Second Divisions of Second Divisions: Second Divisions: Second Ovider (SFF (2.0)); Jed-Forest v Selvin (2.0); Stewart's Mehite FF v Cumin (2.0); West of Scottland v Melso (2.0). Thand Divisions: Beggar v Glassjow Academicab (2.0); Nassabanjiv Grangmouth (2.0); Preston Lodge v Corstorphine (2.0). Fourth Divisions: Ayr v Edinburgh Wanderers (2.0); Nimamock v Gassgow Southern (2.0); Lengholm v Haddington (2.0); Wigtownshire v Gordonians (2.0).

Hockey HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CIP Third round: Barlerd Tigers v Canterfuny (1.0); Bloawch v Firebrands (1.45); Bournermouth v Reading (1.30);
Bournetle v Norton (2.30); Bromley v Westort-super-Mare (1.30); Coronock v Sneffeld (1.45); Circhester v Crostox (1.30); Dereham
v Teddengton (1.30); Doncaster v Bluehons (1.30); East Gransaod v Striessbury (2.0); Figbaston v Ramgaina (2.0); Formby v Sheffeld
Barkers 1.20); Guidridor v Harleston Megnes (12.0); Harmpstead v Lewes (2.30); Harborne v Warrington (1.45); Havard v Sourport (1.0); Indian Gymrhama v Harmgate (2.30); Issaech v Southgate (12.45); Issa v Breston (1.0); Indian Gymrhama v Harmgate (2.30); Issaech v Southgate (1.245); Issa v Breston (1.0); Citon and West Warwicks v Robinsons (1.30); Odor
Hawks v Brooklands (1.0); Odord Univ v Cty
of Portsmouth (2.0); Redondge and Blood v Richmond (1.215); St Ribers v Hat (1.0); Temperiey v Hourston (1.30); Winchester v Gloucester Cry (12.45); Wolning v Wernbedon (2.0).

Bassicetballi HOCKEY ASSOCIATION CUP Third round: Bar-

Basketball BLOWEISER LEAGUE: Chester Jets v Sneffeld Sharks (5.0).

ice Hockey ICS MOCIOSY
BRITISH LEAGUE Premier Division: Duriam Wissps v Stough Jens (6.30); Humbersde Sechaniks v Basingstole Blson (5.45); Newcastle Warnors v Fife Plyers (6.30); First Divisions: Blangham Bombers v Dumities Wengs (6.15); Blackbum Blackhawie v Marrayfield Royals (6.0); Bracknell Bees v Chelmstond Chefnans (5.15); Guidford Romes v Pasiay Prates (5.15); Manchester Storm v Swindon Widcast (6.0); Medway Bears v Peterborough Prates (5.15); Solmuli Barons v Totland Tigers (7.0).

Other sports RALLYING: Network Q RAC Raily first leg (Chester to Leeds) SNOOKER: Royal Liver Assurance UK Cham-NC: Grand Pre meet (Lescester),

CATTERICK

12.40 Peep O Day 1.10 Wild Rose Of York 1.45 Highland Poacher 2.20 Warwick Mist 2.55 The Toaster 3.25 Rich Desire

GOING: Good to Firm (Good in places).

Left-hand course, undulating and sharp. Not suitable for the long-struking horse. Run-in 240yes.

Rececourse is north-west of town on A6130. Darlingson rail-way stands is 14 miles nextly-bus service to course. ADMISSION: Club \$10; Taxiersalls \$6; Course \$2 (under 10s free into all enclosures). CAR PARK: Members \$2, remainder Free.

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: Name.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Deligarth Lady (12.40) has been sent 180 miles by J Spenning from Wixford, Warwicks; Chicheli's Barret (2.55) sent 102 miles by Mrs P Sly from Thomey, Camb. 12.40 GOATHLAND MARES MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,000 added 2m 3f

BETTING: 6-4 Peep O Day, 7-4 Delgarth Lay, 12-1 Zanzara, High Pen-howe, Marsden Rock, 14-1 Ferever Siver, 16-1 others

1.10 DARLINGTON AND STOCKTON TIMES NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2.200 added 2m

— 8 doctared —
Minimum weight: 10st. True handition weights: Mar. Aumbler & Tigursong 9st
13th, Rosy Lydgate 9st 3th.
BETTING: 7-4 Cadegus: Premiera, 11-4 Wild Rose Of York, 6-1 litr Horisty, 8-1 Tigersong, 10-1 Bolazoy Girl, Mac Revolvier, 14-1 others

AINTREE

3.20: 1. SEOD RIOGA (Chris Webb) 2-1;

1.45 WHITBY NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £2,300 added 2m

6 32434-4 SHAHORAM (35) P Beaumont 7 11 0 BETTEN: 2-1 Highland Poacher, 9-4 King Athelstan, 7-2 Salman, 9-2 Shah-gram, 12-1 Dark Midnight, 50-1 Nobodys Flame 2.20 CLEVELAND NOVICE CLARVING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 3YO 2m HEES A DANCER (16) (D) M Carracho 11 9_E Callaghan (7) MISS MADELON (4) M W Exceptor 11 4 SURGER VILLA (4) P Haslam 11 4 Serah Belahdidge (7)

SOOST C Trompon 11 0 ...

O HIGHERANK (38) Mrs M Rordey 11 0 ...

O HORSETRADER (21) B Busy 11 0 ...

O HORSETRADER (27) B Story 11 0 ...

SLUTTOFT Mrs S Austrn 10 11 ...

SELUTIOFT Mrs S Austrn 10 11 ... SEE YOU AGAIN 14 Brissen 10 11 _G Cabill (7)R Supple .S McDougall

2.55 DICK BREWITT CUP HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £2,500 added 2m 3f 02-415 [ASH OF REALM (12) (8F) P Moment 9 12 0 __G Cable (7) 32243 CROCKEL'S WARS (28) Ms P S, 9 11 17 ___ R Marley 66221 2 THE TOASTER (21) (8F) I Quan 8 11 5 ____ A 5 Smith 273-22 CRAFT CHAPLAN (11) D McCain 9 11 4 ___ D McCain 212323 CRAZEMBER (427) P Recurrors 8 10 9 ____ R Supple ___ F decimand ___ F decimand ___ R - 5 declared - 5 the Country Charles - 5 declared - 6 the Country Charles

3.25 WOOD HOUSE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,200 added 3m if 110yds

- 6 deciated
Minimum weight 10st. True hamscap weights. New Charges 9st 12th, Rua
Ros 9st 8th, Shellon Albey 9st 3th.

1.18: 1. TAKE THE BUCKSION (G McCourt)
9-4; 2. Kalassad evers fav; 3. Datesman 71. 4 ran. 7. dist, (T ithomson Jones, Upper
Lambourn). Tote: £2.90. Dual Forecast:
£1.80. Computer Straight Forecast:
£1.80. Computer Straight Forecast:
£1.80. East 8. 1-4, (S Mellor, Samdon). Tote:
£8.30; £2.50. £2.70. Dual Forecast: £1.60.
Computer Straight Forecast: £4.6.05. MR: Explore Mondial.
2.20; 1. PATS MINISTRIEL IA Dobbini 91: 2. De Jordsan 2-1. 3 ran (2 finished).
8-13 tav Cay Courty (tell). 20. (R Champion). Novemanent: Totel:
£2.90. Computer Straight Forecast:
£2.90. Computer Straight Forecast:
£2.90. Computer Straight Forecast:
£2.30. Computer Straight Forecast:
£3.30. Computer Straight Forecast:
£4.20. Dual Forecast:
£7.35. NR: Alberton Green.
3-20: 1. \$800 MOGA (Chris Webb) 2-1; 1.15: 1. TAKE THE SUCKSION (G McCourt) 4: 2. Kalassadi ovors fav. 3. Datasana 7-ASCOT

Dual Forecast £57.50. Computer Straight Forecast: £105.78. Tho: £171.10. After a stewards' inquiry, placings unattered. 2.40; 1. LARGE ACTION () OSDOme! 8-15 for; 2. Atours 100-30; 3. Morely Street 25-1. 5 rea. 1½, 12. (0 Sherwood, Unore Larabouni, Tetes £1.50; £1.10, £1.70. Dual Forecast: £2.10. Computer Straight Forecast: £2.63. NR: Putty Road.

AINTREE Bowling Headley 22-9-29-1; Gddins : White 4-3-14-0; Irani 3-2-2-0; 17.3-6-39-6; Stemp 2-0-4-0. ENGLAND A - First Invited

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Sept.

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115 Comments of the Comments o

The state of the s

1.31 Bee ..

"Of course, Colin will have however, is purely personal. thanks to a slice of luck; a Umpires: Shaked Khan and Man Mohammad

- 20 decisred -BETTING: 7-2 Hee's A Dancer, 5-1 Summer Villa, 6-1 Highbank, 15-2 On A Pedestal, 8-1 Warwick Mist, 10-1 Skeand, 14-1 Boost, 16-1 others

RACING RESULTS cast £1.40. Computer Straight Forecast £3.37.

23.37.

3.50: 1. LA BELLA VILLA (M Kergley) 52; 2. Recheel's Dawn 4.7 fav; 3. Rt Ra 71. 5 ran. 5, 9. Ni wegon-Dates, Orogenham,
roter: £3.50; £2.50. £1.10. Dual Forecast £1.40. Computer Smitght Forecast; £4.54 Quadpot: £128.00. Phoeopoit: £1.840.50 Place 5: £1,712.21. Place 6: £6.326,26.

1.00: 1 LIVELY KNIGHT (I. Aspelli 6-4 fay; 2. Swing Quartet (7-4; 3. Far Springs; 7-1. 6 ran, 39; 10. U. Gflord, Fridani, Totac £2.40: £1.60, £1.50, Dual Forecast; £2.10. Computer Straight Forecast; £4.17. 1.35: 1. DOCS DR.EMMA (R Durwoods) 7-2: 2. Teom Baby 7-1; 3. Certain Angle 7-2: 5 Teom Baby 7-1; 3. Certain Angle 7-2. 5 ran. 5-2 for Charmer's Well jurseat-ed nieri. Dist, dist. IX Baby, Upper Lambourn. Tota: £3.00; £3.20, £3.00. Durl Foverst: £40.20. Computer Straight Forecast: £21.49. 2,10: 1 FOXBOW U Osborne) 7-1; 2,

E2.63. NR: Putry Road.

3.10: 1. KIRREET (A P McCOy) 5-4 tav.
2. Gales Cavaller 7-4; 3. Rapples 66-1; 4
ran. 5. dr.J. (P Noths, Manchead). Totac £2.10:
£2.00. Dust Forecast £2.00. Computer
Straight Forecast £3-4. NR: Martin's Lamp.
3.40: 1. NON VINTAGE (V/ Wortningon)
10-1: 2. Subtlime FeBow 3-1: 3. Golden Anrow 3-1: 1. 11 ran. 7-4 fav Salver Groom 40h;
4. 1/2. 48 Chapman, Martiet Rasent. Totac
£10.00: £2.00. £1.90; £2.80. Dust Firecast
£27.90. Computer Straight Forecast: £40.06.
Thicast: £40.65. This £133.90. After a stowands' mounty, Salver Groom, who was third past
the post, was demoted to fourth the post, was demoted to fourth Jackpot: £2,105.60.

Maguire's fall may ground Morceli

RICHARD EDMONDSON

Britain's newest flying grey is in danger of being grounded. The participation of Morceli in this afternoon's First National Bank Gold Cup Chase at Ascot was threatened because his booked jockey, Adrian Maguire, was in-jured yesterday in a fall at the Berkshire course.

As Maguire was being as-sessed at Slough's Wexham Park hospital last night, Howard Johnson, Morceli's trainer, was in no mood to contemplate an alternative jockey. "If he can't ride we might just bring the horse straight back," he said. Maguire, a famously resilient figure, had been taken to hos-

pital in a neck brace for X-rays on his neck and ankle. He was

all-the-way win in the Ascot

lengths back in third, his train-

er, Oliver Sherwood, confirmed

that Large Action's next target

would be the Bula Hurdle at

Cheltenham on 9 December.

After the seven-year-old had

Hurdle yesterday.

eys were soon upright, Maguire remained prostrate, communicating more in groans than The reaction of David Nicholson, Hatcham Boy's trainer, was also hard to un-derstand. On learning that his yard's retained rider would be unavailable for the rest of the

afternoon he withdrew his remaining runners, Putty Road and Martin's Lamp. "I have got no jockey so I don't run," Nicholson said, ignoring possible replacements such as Richard Dunwoody, Jamie Os-borne, the Grand Nationalwinning jockey Jason Titley and David Bridgwater, second in the riders' championship. injured when Hatcham Boy Johnson later imitated this perwent down on the final bend of ceived loyalty.

Bula next target for Action

Large Action, looking almost grateful to be back over hurdles after an unpleasant attempt at he was third in it before being the solution of t

"We had to do the donkey work today and it was all against

him, but he came through with

ing about comes out of the

woodwork before the Champi-

on, he must have a great chance

heltenham on 9 December. Coral make Large Action 5"If any horse deserves to 1 for the Champion, with the field was snowed off.

of it being third time lucky."

fencing, skipped back on to the runner-up this year. He is a

beaten Atours by one and a half colours flying. Unless some-

lengths, with Morley Street 12 thing new that we know noth-

Champion Hurdle trail with an credit to himself.

a novice hurdle. His immediate collapse also arrested the joura flavour away from what is nevneys of Jimmy's Cross and ertheless a tasty dish. Ascot's Crane Hill, but while their jockfeature event would otherwise include three horses who beat the grey home in the Arkle Chase at the Cheitenham Festival earlier this year. Fore-

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Into The Red (Aintree 1.35) NB: Cherrynut (Ascot 3.05)

Man, the Prestbury Park runner-up, whose conqueror, his fellow Irish runner Klairon Davis, won impressively at Tipperary on Thursday.

Edward O'Grady's sevenyear-old has won twice at Navan this season in races he rendered as competitive as a hiker's boot against ants. His

pleased with Atours, said: "Wherever Large Action goes,

we go, so it is the Bula for us too. "The veteran Morley Street

ran well to be third after Oh So

Risky had fallen at the second

last, and his trainer, Toby Bald-

ing, said: "The old boy is as keen

as ever and will go for the

Sandeman Hurdle at Aintree,

which he has won four times."

Morceli's absence would take trainer has already made noises about coming back to Britain for an assault on the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day, yet Sound Man (1.55) has shown he has not lost the speed of last season. The weights suggest otherwise, but he should have the measure of Camitrov on this ground.

At Aintree, jockeys get the rare opportunity to disturb as much fir and spruce as a Canadian logging team when the Grand National fences come into play for the Becher Chase. The simple analysis here

would be that Young Hustler must win as he is the only horse in the handicap proper but that would mean tossing all other relevant information into the trough. The top weight has be-gun to rival Pete Best as the un-luckiest figure on Merseyside, being brought down by a loose horse in the 1994 National and

Piggott is

poised to

return

Lester Piggott may make a one-off return to race-riding as

captain of an international team

of jockeys taking part in a

celebrity race at Gosforth race-

course in Johannesburg on 17

February. If any of the provisional squad of Cash Asmussen,

Willie Carson, Lanfranco Det-

tori, Pat Eddery and Michael Ki-

nane fails to make the trip,

nounced his retirement from the

saddle only a month ago, short-ly before his 60th birthday. "This is not a comeback in the

The 11-times champion an-

Piggott will ride.



Trusted companion: Maguire is deemed Irreplaceable

having Carl Llewellyn slide from his back 12 months later. Ranged against him are horses who have proved they can negotiate these Himalayas: Into The Red and Feathered Gale were first and second in this race

last year, while Over The Deel was third in the National itself. Backers here should go for a horse who performs best on this course and represents the gamblers' inevitable zone. Into The Red (nap 1.35) should win.

12.30: At Chepstow a fortnight ago, Linden's Lotto was only five lengths behind the promising Hill Of Tullow and Berude Not To. He is running well but will have his hands full coping with BONE SET-TER. His jockey Chris Webb detied gravity several times before easing Bone Setter home at Market Rasen last Saturday and Stan Mellor's five-year-old is taken to learn from this

1.00: KEEP YOUR DISTANCE won six times on the Flat last season and transferred this form to hurdles when successful at Newcastle earli-er this month. If anything this trip may be too short, but the five-yearold looks well-handicapped and can see off the favourite, Bimsey.

1.30: YOUNG HUSTLER has tried the Grand National course twice and failed to get round twice. But being the only horse in the handi-cap and clearly in a different class to the rest of the field, he is diffi-cult to avoid. Into the Red is a thorough stayer, who has completed this course before, and can follow Young Hustler home.

ASCOT 12.45: Alitime Dancer has beaten most of those with form in the field. but ZABADI, runner-up in Listed

1.20: The veterans, Garrison Savannah and Sibton Abbey, are like-

vanish and should shoely and last year's winner. Run Up The Flag, the going too fast, so it may pay to forgive BAS DE LAINE an indifferent round of jumping last time. He ran an excellent comeback race. Auto Pilot is well treated but was a chancy jumper as a novice These sences may find him out.

1.55: The exuberant jumper Morceling has be wrongfooted by travelling right-handed for the first time, while Dancing Paddy is frequently knocked off balance by the task of fencing. The tough and top-class SOUND MAN has a fair chance at the weights on Arkle Trophy form and should improve for this longer trip. The ex-French trained Camitrov

company to the Derby horse Humbel in the spring, looks the best Flat recruit to juvenile hardling so far. His trainer should have him ready.

Coulton's chance to atone

Coulton, seventh when favourite for Saturday's Mackeson Gold Cup, has been entered for Tuesday's Peterborough Chase at Huntingdon. The race was reopened as there were only three original entries, two of whom er of the 1993 Queen Mother were Travado and Martha's Son. Champion Chase winner, is

AINTREE

12.30 Bone Setter

1.35 Young Hustler

GOING: Grand National course - Good to Firm:

1.00 Keep Your Distance (nb) 2.50 Go Universal

Mildmay course — Good to Parm; Hurdle course — Good to Parm.

Two left-hand courses. Grand National circuit is 21, miles and triangular with a run-in of almost 500yds, Massive spruce and fir (ences, several with a steep drop on the landing side. Mildmay course 11, miles round, conventional fences.

Recocourse is NE of city, one mile from the M57 on the A59. Aintree railway station

(served by Liverpool, Lime St) adjoins the course. ADMISSION: County Stand \$14; Tattersalls 87 (percompanied under-10s free both environmes). CAR PARE: County Stand \$5 (advance broking only); Western \$2; Central free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS: K Bafley — 7 winners from 22 runners gives a success ratio of 31.8% and a loss to a 21 level stake of 50.72; M Pipe — 7 winners, 61 runners, 11.5%, -510.03; G Bichards — 5 winners, 37 runners, 13.5%, 55.62.
■ LEADING JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody — 10 winners, 61 rides, 16.4%, +515.24; N

Williamson — 7 winners, 36 rides, 19.4%, 54.03; J Osborne — 5 winners, 33 rides, 15.2%, \$6.50.

15.2%, \$6.80; A Magnire — 6 winners, 43 rides, 10.2%, \$4.50.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: Bone Setter (12.30) won at Market tasen on Saturday; Go Universal (2.50) won at Mindsor on Saturday; Windward Ariom (1.00) won at Chehenham on Sunday; Thoraton Gate (1.00) won at Haydock on Wednesday.

LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Birmsey (1.00) has been sent 221 miles by E Akehurst from Epsom; Into The Red (1.35) & Linden's Lotto (12.30) have been sent 198

12.30 TOTE BOOKMAKERS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) EBC1
£8,000 added 2m 4f (MLDMAY COURSE)

Penalty Value £5,458

- 4 declared -SETTING: 4-5 Lindon's Lotto, 3-1 Bone Setter, 9-2 General Co.

COP-114 GENERAL COMMAND (14) (Robert Ogden) G Richards 7 11 12 215123 LINDEN'S LOTTO (14) (D) (Cocketts Reong Cuto) J White 6 11 12 35-1321 BONE SETTER (7) (D) (Lord Learnshine) S Melor 5 11 7 5-7213* LANE OF LOUGHREA (17) (D) (Mrs Harry J Duffleyi K Balley 5 11 7

ing," Sherwood said. "We can

find nothing wrong with him." One that will not be taking part is Deep Sensation, who is injured. Josh Gifford, the train-

2.10 Simply Dashing

3.20 Scilly Cay

"Coulton's absolutely bounc- awaiting the result of scans gelding will be out of action.

that will determine how long the Missing from next week's Hennessy Gold Cup will be the

true sense of the word," Piggott's daughter Tracey said. "He will only be riding in a oneoff celebrity race. He is enjoy-François Doumen-trained pair ing his retirement and there is

of Algan and Val D'Alene, who no question of his making an ofgo for a race at Auteuil instead. ficial comeback." 1.00 STANLEY LESSURE CHILDREN IN NEED HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £15,000 added 2m 110yds

(MILDMAY COURSE) Penalty Value £10,236 014-00 TWICE THE GROOM (IS) (IX) (M) Ferbrainer) R Les 5 10 4 -

BETTING: 2-1 Himsey, 11-4 Keep Your Distance, 11-2 Hister Drum, 7-1 Thom ward Arion, 12-1 Roly Wandorer, Band Sable, 33-1 Tutes The Groom 1994: Surrey Dancer 6 11 0 G .ae 6-1 (Mrs M Reveley) 9 ran

BEND SABLE is not without a chance if surprising more fanced opposition. His best form last season was in his early races and nis third to Stay Anaka at Wetherby on his reap-pearance giver indication of better to come, as tid last veels is fourth under 12 stone be-hard Dancing Dove at Kelso, where he was staying on well up the hill. All good things come to an end and Keep Your Distance's run of so straight wins on the Past came to an abrupt halt when down the field at Doncaster three weeks ago, but that do not stop him making a successful comeback over hundles with a three-length defeat of Stay Awake at Newcastle a successful correback over hundles with a three-length defeat of Stay Awake at Newcastle the following Saturday. While that was an improved performance, a line through the runner-up gives Bend Sable just as much chance. Mistair Drium was a good winner at Chettenham on his second outing lest season and his second to Silver Groom at Sendown a forthright ago was possably a torrestate of better to come. Going up 2b for that still leaves him on a lower mark than Chetenham, though the one reservation about him must be the faster ground on such a sharp track. Bitmeey must also be in with a fighting chance, especially as he comes here fit from the Fait. He sociated the runnour that testing ground was a prerequisite by winner cours and a still miles are Account in Anni Ing that may not a use after indicate the control of the form and a use after indicate the control of the form and a use after indicate the control of the form and a use after indicate the control of the form and a use after the other than the control of the form and a use after the control of the form and a stay thing the other than the control of the form and a stay thing the control of the form and a stay thing the control of the form and a stay thing the control of the form and a stay thing the control of the form and a stay thing the control of the form and a stay the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form and a stay that the control of the form nare mit from the risk. The standard are unto used to be properly and it was also riding last when he made at in a 1.4-unlong Flat maiden at Nottingham in October. The third that day, Caccuse, won a hundle race at Werherby on Tuesday and Bimsey may this be afreed of the hand.

1.35 CROWTHER HOMES BECHER CHASE (HANDICAP) BBC1 (CLASS B) £40,000 added 3m 3f (GRAND NATIONAL COURSE) Penalty Value £24,508

4251/2-2 YOUNG HUSTLER (22) (Govin Medication) N Twiston-Device 8 12 0 ... 31F445- INTO THE RED (153) (CD) (J Muckel J Wive 11 10 0 A Dobbé

10) PP-7-9 and registrates say promit yeapers registrated as 10 to
Conceding weight is easier on fast ground and, with Young Hustler's rune opponents all out of the handicap, he should, in theory at least, be able to give them two stone. Still only eight, Young Hustler's rune opponents all out of the handicap, he should, in theory at least, be able to give them two stone. Still only eight, Young Heatier has never taken the easy option and made a pleasing cometiack when chasing home Barron Bank at Wetherby three weeks ago, but the distant thrift then, Ower The Dee, recoposes on 20th better terms. That being his first run since has thrift to Royal Atthete in the Grand National almost seven months serifer. Over The Deel is bound to stop a lot fight. He had previously shown plenty of ability over these fences when last of the six to finish behind into The Red and FEATHERED GALE in this race last year. Feathered Gale is following the same path as 12 months ago in that his previous run was in the Munster National at Umerick. Whereas last year he was besten a length by Monkey Ago, with Second Schedual thrift, he ran out a game winner at Limenck lest month and Second Schedual was that again, this time on better treath. A year older than when coming from a long way back to chase home into The Red, Festhered Gale is obviously a much stronger horse and in a better position to do himself gasce, into the Red and quest time after last year's race, although he did finish fifth in the National and was breathing right down Over The Deel's neck (Young Hustler had made a surprise early ent). This course brings out the best in these two and they should be being there for a lot of the way. Welded it is stays and has a chance if he copes with the fences, though he and Birsenbilli Raffles never get very far on their respective reeppearances and could be a bir short of their peak for such a competitive ree.

2.10 TOTE CREDIT NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) LES,000 added 2m 4f (MILDMAY COURSE) Penalty Value

4 (045-11 HIGHLAND PAIRK (12) (D) (Ray Craggal R Cragge 9 10 9 — 4 declared — RETIRMS: 13-8 Simply Deciding, 5-2 Bayariyta, 11-4 Righland Park, 5-1 kins 1994: Mr Knowt 7 10 9 A Dobbin 9-4 (G Richards) 8 Ian 2.50 HALEWOOD INTERNATIONAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C)

£6,500 added 2m 4f (MiLDMAY COURSE) Penalty Value 33-RF11 WIND FORCE (22) (CD) (J N G Moreton) G Richards 10 12 0 ... ____L07Haca

3.20 EBF NH NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m 110yds (MILDMAY COURSE) Penalty Value Q5104 TARA RAMBLER (211) (J Harson) Miss S Hall 6 11 0 ...

- 4 declared -BETTING: 8-11 Scilly Cay, 11-4 Guinds, 7-2 Tara Raesbler, 25-1 Clever Boy

LINDEN'S LOTTO has taken well to chasing and continues to give a good account of himself, despite having been upped in grade in its last two starts. He was giving 10th when beaten time lengths by the useful Cherymul at Worcester four weeks ago, and only last week he was turid behind two very promising newcorners in Hill Of Tutlow and Berude Not To at Chepstow. Thirteen lengths back in fourth came General Command, who was found out by the better company after easier pickings at Perth and from Simply George, a stable-mate of Linden's Lotto, at Newbury. General Command remarks a rice prospect but a 4th worse off this week. Lake Of Loughrea, from last year's warring stable, has form only on the small tracks so far. The same can be said of Bone Setter, a 20-length winner on his chasing debut at Markel Rasen last Saturday. He had to overcome two bad mistakes, the second when clear at the last, but it was a good start all the same and he has the scope to go on and do a lot better.

...M Bre 4 LUNE WARM (23) D Gamboto 5 10 12 ... 0- RAMBLENG ON (208) C Draws 5 10 12 ...

NOTTINGHAM

12.35 Champagne Gold 1.05 Flying Instructor 1.40 Judicial Field 2.15 Pair Of Jacks 2.45 Danzig Island 3.15 Persian Tactics

GOING: Classes — Good to Firm (Firm in places);
Hurdles — Good to Firm.

Left-hand, aval course. Gailoping with easy turns. Run-in of 240rds.

Course is 2m E of city off B686. Notingham station (served by London, St Pancras) 2m. ADMISSION: Club \$12 (Juniors, 16-2) years, 53); Tairenalis 58; Silver Ring & Paddock \$4. GAR PARKS.

Silver Ring \$12 (admiss car plus four occupants), remainder free.

SIS WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS: Chasce Bacounter (12:35) sent 210
miles by Mrs S Williams from Manansleigh, Devon; Dominion Treasure (12:36) sent 208 miles by R Baher from Shoodleigh, Devon.

12.35 ST ANNS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 added 3m 110yds OP45-3 CHAMPRIME GOLD (27) (9.) McCornoche 8 11 10. All Sharests
1005-65 DOMMON THE RESIDENCE (64) R Ballet 10 11 10. All Sharests
1005-63 DOMMON THE RESIDENCE (64) R Ballet 10 11 10. All Sharests
1000-64 MANDOOD (147) S Clerk 10 11 10. All Sharest 10 1000-64 MANDOOD (147) S Clerk 10 11 10. All Sharest 100000-60 BORRISMORE FLASH (173) JA Bandey 7 11 8. A. F Farrant
100000-60 FROUNT (183) 6 riam 6 10 13. A. R Mansety (6)
100000-60 FROUNT HER (23) Mis S Wildows 5 10 7. A. Tory
100000-60 FROUNT HER (23) Mis S Wildows 5 10 7. A. Tory
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10000-60 FROUNT HER (23) Mis S Wildows 5 10 7. A. Tory
10000-60 FROUNT HER (23) MIS S WILDOWS HE

im weegic 10st. True handicap weights: Escape Talk 9st 12th, Kingswood Fachers St 11th. BETTING: 7-2 Balaina, 5-1 Mardeod, 8-1 Cresy Horse Dencer, 7-1 Cham-BETTING: 7-2 Balaina, 5-1 Mardeod, 8-1 Cresy Horse Dencer, 7-1 Cham-pages Gold, 8-1 Law Faculty, 12-1 Dominion Tressure, 14-1 others

1.05 EBF "NATIONAL HUNT" NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m

1.40 HIGHGROVE DEVELOPMENTS NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,500 added 2m 5f 110yds

Minimum weight 10s, Two handing weight On The Tear Set 9h. BETTING: 4-5 Judicial Reid, 7-4 Gentlen Princese, 6-1 On So Hendy, 8 2.15 GEDRGE FARNDON LADY RIDERS HAND-ICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 2m

04-1722 LUCY TUFTY (16) J Peace 4 11.1 ________ Miles P Robson 02233- PAR OF JACKS (273) D Wison 5 10 12 ______ Miles P Jacob 45P0-33 MRISHEMILES (15) Capt J Wison 5 10 4 ______ Jacob Oliver NG: 7-4 Pair Of Jacks, 2-1 Lucy Yelly, 9-4 Never So Silve, 7-1 Min

2.45 HIGHGROVE DEVELOPMENTS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,800 2m 5f 110yds C-D AUGUSTAN (7) S Bolings 4 11 0 ... O BATMATIC (22) Mrs J Pitman 611.0 ... OP/3 CORN EXCHANGE (15) R Pros 7 11.0. DANCIG ISLAND (241) W Jenis 4 11 0 BESH LICK P Daton 5 11 0 NEEDWOOD JONER (23) JA Parts 4 11 0 5-60 CAPAY-I (140 F Jackson 4 109 ... POS WAR PLOWER (21) A Carrol 7 109 ... - 9 deciared -

- 9 December - 9 D 3.15 RADIO TRENT NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m

GETTHOR: 7-4 Persian Tactics, 2-1 Nablely, 3-1 Sectorist, 9-2 Golden Ob

3.30 HIGHGROVE BIRTHDAY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,500 added 2m P3442-4 RODED STAR (7) (0) N Terkier 9 11 10 _______ & Med

TOWCESTER

12.55 Beechfield Flyer 1.30 Doc Cottrill 2.00 Ah There You Are 2.35 Urban Cowboy 3.10 Professor Page 3.45 Meanus Miller

GOING: GOOD.

Right-hand, unchaisting circuit, run-in of 140yd.

Recoccurse is on A5 SE of town. Bus service from Norths on naivay senion. ADEOSSION: Members 512; Tatternalis Course 54 (Car plus all occupants 515). CAR PARK: Free. SIS RACTIC

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DESTANCE RUNNERS: Willerfose (3.10) has been sent 105 miles by Brothwell from halton, N Torks: Antartictern [12.55) sent. 153 miles by G Oldroyd from Upper Helmsley, N Yorks.

12.55 SPINAL RESEARCH NOVICE SELLING HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,600 added 2m

MERCHARIE (14) C James 5 11 0........ Persian Guisher & Biochel 5 11 0

- 15 declared -BETTENG: 4-1 Existy, 9-2 Beachfield Fyor, 5-1 Lord Glesvers, 7-1 Go Again 8-1 Filling Trine, Trapeze, 10-1 Joys First, 12-1 officers

1.30 DAILY EXPRESS NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 1f 1142-43 FLEBANT KING (14) A Jame 6 11 2.

BETTURE: 11-10 Begant King, 4-1 Doc Cathill, 9-2 Suffolk Road, 8-1 Mo-

2.00 JEREMY EYDEN MAIDEN HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,800 added 2m 5f

0/0P-0 CORRIE SONG (1/4) T Forser 6 10 12...... DODGEN M Willerson 7 10 12...... 55-5 DUGORT STRAND (7) 0 Brennan 4 10 12...... 23/25/04 EMLING COURT (22/0) N Barle 6 10 12..... 6R02-65 RYAN GIGGS (7) A January 4 10 12

2.35 NATIONAL LETTERBOX MARKETING HAND ICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 2m 6f

-7 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Really A Rescal, 3-1 Boll Weevil, 7-2 Nicking, 6-1 hir la vader, 10-1 Derring Valley, 12-1 Lithan Coveboy, 10-1 Talo of Endorance 3.10 NEMESWARY "NATIONAL HUNT" NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 3m

ood 5 11 0 A McCartin

BROGEEN LADY D Candolio 5 10 9... -7 declared =

BETTING: 7-4 Professor Page, 7-2 Brogeon Lady, 5-1 Napdown Boy, 8-1
River Threst, 8-1 Magic Cave, 10-1 Tuley Missile, 12-1 Willertoss

O.P. REVER THRUST (27) O Shewood 5 11 0 F/POF25- THRUST MESSILE (190) I Smath 9 11 0 OOPO- WILLERFOSS (214) B Rothwell 5 11 0

3.45 HEATON-ELLIS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m

10013-4 MENNES MILLER (149 R Rome 7 10 3.

12.45 Zabadi 1.20 Bas De Laine L55 Sound Man

ASCOT 2.30 STRONG PROMISE (nap) 3.05 Cherrymut 3.40 Sheriff

GOING: Good (Good to Pirm in places).

Kight-hand course with testing toylell fruich.

Recoveries is near junction of A3:35 and A3:30. Easy access from M3 (June 3) and

Recoveries is near junction of A3:35 and A3:30. Easy access from M3 (June 3) and

Vi (June 5). Helicopter-landing facility at course (Heathrow 10m), Railway station (service from London Waterloo) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 116 (Junior Members 16:25 years, half price): Grandstand & Paddock 110; Silver Ring 13. CAR PARK:

No. 1. 2 & 3 54, remainder free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: E Balley — 7 winners from 22 winners gives a success vation of 31.8 % and a profit to a 31 state of 30.72; M Fipe — 7 winners, gives a success vation of 31.8 % and a profit to a 31 state of 30.72; M Fipe — 7 winners, 61 numers, 11.5%, 418.00; G Bichards — 5 winners, 13.5%, 45.62.

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: R Danwoody — 10 winners, 61 risks, 16.4%, +215.24; N WIHLIAMSON — 7 winners, 16 risks, 19.4%, 54.03; J Osborne — 5 winners, 33 risks, 15.2%, 45.60; A Magniter 5 winners, 49 risks, 10.2%, 44.50.

WINNERS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Morcell (1.55) & Paddy's Resurra (12.45) have been from Crook, Co. Durbam; Postage Stamp (1.55) & Paddy's Resurra (12.45) have been send 241 miles by F Marphy from Middleham, N Yorks.

12.45 ALRELUS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £6,000 BBC1

2 SERVINGEN (198) (The Fourn List) G1 Moore 11.3 Peter Holde
9 IDICHICAN (Terry Keter S Kinger 11.3 Servinde
16 SERVINGEN (Terry Keter S Kinger 11.3 Servinde
16 SERVINGEN (198) (Northern Lady Heries 11.3 E Morphy
11 WITHER OF SERVINGEN C. Time Houghter? J S Moore 11.3 WINEPARIAN
12 ZABADI (Lady Hams) D Microlson 11.3 A Magnite
13 MSS DOUBSTRIKE (R) N C Lynch R Alekhast 10.12 Servind
14 3 PEDMITOTHERSETAL (7) (C R Hams) P Microl 10.12 Servind
15 Seven Paddy's Rotarn, Volunteer, 12-1 Birthday Boy, 14-1 Vang Of Bebylon, 20-1 Witney-De-Bergarer, Mrs Doubtline, Padditothersont, 50-1 Ketzhioan
1994: Saker Vedga 3 11 7 A Magner 1-3 (D Nicholson) 6 ran
FORM GUIDDE
ALLTIMAT DANCER, INNOE & Fist Innier this year, has taken well to this game and can

1994: Saler Viedge 3 11 7 A Magure 1-3 D' Nicholson 6 ran FORM GUIDE

ALLTIME DANCER, nuce a Flat winner this year, has taken well to this game and can bring his hurding score to four. The winner of a couple of hurder cross for the Lynda Ramssien, Altima Dancer changed hands for 17,000ghs in August and finished a creditable that behind Executive Design and Woodnang at Newbury four weeks ago on his first nur from Olives Sherwood's stable. The selection stormed home by a dozen lengths from Volunteer and Sandown a fortnight ago with Bathday Boy three lengths away in third and Olivean Hawk & further eight lengths away lesthaday Boy three lengths away in third and Olivean Hawk & further eight lengths away lengths that you have a 7th advantage with Dozen Hawk. Bure Forum, who was making his hurding bow, was only helf a length behind Altime Dancer at Newbury and should improve, but is 4th worse in. The main threat may come from Deand Nicholson's recruit Zahadi, who was a decent Flat tacer in lesland for John Ox, scoring twice this year. Multiply won for Kewn Prendengast's stable at Rescommon in August and, following seconds in his first but starts for Charler Maint, went in at Chetterham under a fine ride from Richard Dunisoody, who got him home by a length and a quarter from Royal Expression after that mail had looked home and dired when some fine lengths clear at the final flight. But, if Volunteer, who earlier best Mustry (5th better) by a length at Kempton, is used as a yard-stick. Altime Dencer has the measure of Mann's charge. Paddy's Rebum, a maiden but broce numer-up on the Flat this year, made a good start to his hurding career when juatifying lawountism at Sedgefield 11 days ago but has more on his plate this time. Simon Shervood's debugant Damiling was claimed out of Paul Cole's yerd.

Selection: All TiME DANCER

GARDNER MERCHANT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £15,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £10,406

1.55 FIRST NATIONAL BANK GOLD CUP LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 2) £40,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £25,336

Airmoum weight 10st True handicap weight Postage Stamp St 12b.

BETTING: 11-8 Sound Mass, 13-8 Morroll, 5-1 Dancing Paddy, 6-1 Camitrov, 25-1 Postage Stamp 1994: Raymylette 7 11 10 M Friggraid 10-1 M Henderson) 11 ran

FORMS GUIDE

This should be a cracker despite a field of only five turning out and SOUND MAN, with his fitness gueranteed, can dely his 12st burden, though Morroll must run him pretty close getting 7lb. The pair mer in the Aride at the Festival when Sound Man was besten half a length by Neiron Dews fivino beax Merry Gafe stx lengths at Topperary on Thursday) after a great ser-to-over the last three fences. Morroll, who did not appear to act on the undulating course, finished a remote fifth, while Camiltrov (5lb better) and Dancing Paddy (9lb better) finished third and fourth, nine lengths and a further dozen length admit. Morcell, who has sociated first here are market to the service of the social first here. undulating course, finished a remote fifth, while Casalitrov (5lb better) and Danching Pag-dy (8lb better) finished third and fourth, nine lengths and a further dozen length admit, Morcell, who has scored first time out over timber for past two seasons, was one of last terms top novice chasers, winning for the third time over the larger obstacles when de-leating Dancing Paddy (2lb better) a length and a half at Ambree - Cammon bearen sev-en and a half lengths in fourth. Howard Johnson's flying grey, who has scored at this trip, was probably over the top when finding Dancing Paddy saven lengths too good at Ayr on his final start. Sound Man is on a hat trick after coming home by a distance at Navan fast month and scoring easing up by five lengths after making all and jumping superbly on the same track a formulation.

2.30 HOLLOWAYS GATE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 HULLUMATS GALE MOVALE FROMBLE (GLASS O)
added 2m 110yds Penalty Value £3,631

1: REEP IT ZEPPED (27) (D) (Mrs Liusa Stewart-Browd O) Shewood 5 11 9
1: REEP IT ZEPPED (27) (D) (G Hubbard G Hubbard 4 11 9
1: REDE WIND (9) (Ray Retracts) D Esworth 4 11 9
1: RACTIC LIFE (462) (Mrs T McCouley) J Jenins 6 11 5

3.05 HURST PARK NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 added 2m Penalty Value £6,710 2-112 CHERRYNUT (10) (RF) (Hurt & Co (Bournerouth) Ltd) P Nichols 6 11 7 ... R Demmody 3:561-13 CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE (6) (D) (Curdosan Industrials Ltd) M H Easterby 6 11 3 ... Wyer 112222 SUMPLY SCOREE (17) (D) (Next Surge) J Wate 6 11 3 D Gallegher 4FT-4-P. TOTHERMOODS (415) (Next M Scott, Next R Cooper) N Tengan-Dames 7 11 3 D Bridgesby - 4 declared -

3.40 LION GATE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000 added 3m Penalty Value £4,897

*THE INDEPENDENT Horse Racing Results ... 0839 - 111 171

49p per min at all other pines.

Commentary Calls charged at 59p per min charp rate,

ASCOT AINTREE | 102 | 202 | 302 NOTT'HAM 103 203 30 TOWCESTER 104 204 30 CATTERICK | 105 | 205 | 305 NAVAN | 120 220 320

RACELINE









likely Highbury tales told in the last few weeks but the Independent can today exclusively reveal the most unexpected claim of them all. Arsenal do not play an off-So asserts Lee Dixon who, together

with Tony Adams, Steve Bould and Nigel Winterburn, has formed arguably the most impregnable defence in the game, and easily the most enduring unit in the top division. In an inappropriate phrase, they have been together for donkey's years.

It is just over seven actually, an extraordinary record of longevity in game of such flux. Of the 76 other defenders who lined up in the (then) First Division on the quartet's first day as a unit, 27 August 1988, only a dozen remain with their clubs, and two of those have played with other teams in the interim. During this time the Arsenal back four have be collectively vilified for being boring and individually accused of not being good enough. Yet they have all played for England and have been the bulwark of a side which has won two championships, the FA and League cups, and the European Cup-Winners' Cup. Not bad for a group that cost just over a million.

The arrival of Bruce Rioch in the summer was thought to herald their break up. Instead, while Rioch has sought to overhaul the personnel and philosophy of the attacking playthe defence (after an uncer couple of years) is playing as well as ever. So well in fact that they go into today's north London derby having conceded six goals in the first 15 games of the season.

Tottenham possess one of the most thoughtful centre-forwards in the Premiership but one prospect is inevitable. At regular intervals Adams will raise his arm, the linesman will put up his flag, and Teddy

the case for a defence After donkey's years of success, Arsenal's miserly back four are still together and still cleaning up against all comers as the side is rebuilt by Bruce Rioch. Glenn Moore tackles the supreme offside trap

play offside; it is not a trap. It is just terburn from Wimbledon and Dixon pitch. organisation. Because we have played together so long we know there are certain areas of the pitch had cost six years earlier. we do not go into and, if a forward makes a run which the back four ingus and I would like to think it paid think is a silly one, we will just hold off," said Dixon at the chib's London the line and let him run offside.

"You never see us all run up towards the half-way like the old Mi- in our first season." Two years latlan trick. But I can see that it looks as if we play offside when four of us are all stood in a line with our hands in the air. There have been a lot of jokes about that - like the Arsenal Subbuteo team with the back four having their hands in the air."

Dixon was the third member of the quartet to arrive at Highbury. Only Adams was there when George Don Howe in the summer of 1986. Adams, a former apprentice, had progressed slowly after making his debut three seasons earlier. Now, at 19. Graham put him alongside David O'Leary, Viv Anderson and Kenny Sansom, three experienced internationals. Adams played every game. was capped by England and voted PFA Young Player of the Year.

But though that defence was tight, it was also growing old, and within

However, Dixon said: "We don't the next year, Graham bought Win- then carried that attitude on to the Bruce has been delighted to inherit a scored and made their share of and Bould from Stoke. Total cost: £1,197,000, less than Sansom alone

> "Mr Graham took a gamble sign-Colney training ground. "We clicked straight away and we won the League er, Arsenal won the title again conceding just 18 goals and keeping 24 clean sheets in 38 League games.

"The secret," Tony Adams said,
"is hard work." Brian Marwood, who was at the club during the first success, agrees. He recalled: "George would work them for half an hour to three-quarters on their own every day. He put a tremendous amount of ef-

Graham would then play attackers v defenders and, Marwood recalls, the defenders usually won. "It would be loaded in our favour; we would be six against their four. We had a good forward line - David Rocastle, Alan Smith, Paul Merson and myself - but we would struggle to break them down. He got them into a frame of mind in which it was a sin to concede a goal in training. They back," Marwood added. "I am sure

"When he formulated the back four George signed players people may have questioned at the time. But they had different strengths and they complemented each other. Any defensive unit relies on its communication and theirs is tremendous. Better than anyone around." Between them the back four have

played nearly 1,500 games for Arsenal. As a unit they have played together 171 times - keeping 74 clean sheets and conceding 137 goals. Contrast that to England, who have fielded 10 different back fours in 14 games under Terry Venables. No er knows when he is beaten, you see wonder Adams snorted when he was asked at Bisham Abbey this week if over the pitch and it stimulates first title season, often as a sweepthey were developing a similar un-derstanding to that he had at Arsenal.

When Rioch arrived at Highbury he sat down with the incumbent staff, Stewart Houston and Steve Burtenshaw, and talked about the team. "They said to me 'Whatever you do, do not change the back four." When I began to work with the players I could see they were right. They were well organised and I had to build a team around that."

back four to build around. He has been able to try and create and finency and ent on the rock of the defensive unit. The four are very good at getting tight on people, they never give them time to hum and run at them. Tony is not frightened of the space behind him if he goes in short. He knows the

others are there to cover. You rarely see

much distance between them. "The central pair are very commanding and very competitive, but they are also very mobile. Tony leads by example, he is inspirational. He their moments. Linighan replaced has come through a lot of abuse and, the injured Bould during the FA and showed a lot of character. He nevhim winning tackles and headers all other players. He could do that even

"Nigel Winterburn is a defender first and foremost. He likes to play with a left-winger in front of him so he can pass and sit. He is very good defensively, one of the most underrated in the Premiership. Lee Dixon's strengths are different. He is very competent defensively but he likes to get forward. Arsenal have not ild a team around that."

"Any new manager starts from the because he gives them that option."

More teams are playing with one striker up and another off. A new prob-"Bould and Adams have also lem? No, said Adams. "Liverpool did

it with Kenny Dalgish and Ian Rush. In that situation do you push one and leave Ian Rush, with his passed against the other centre half? We that grainst the other centre half? We that grainst the other centre half? We that against the other cane the new half. Then there are the new half. Then there are the new half. They for all over the place and we have add to apart on closing the half of the place and we have add to apart on closing the place.

have had to work on closing people down much further out." What's the matter with him? He can stop them," responded Adams

before confirming that was the case. In recent years it has been the European campaigns which have often seen the Arsenal defence at its best, notably against Parma in the 1994 final and at Auxerre last year. "We: were battered for 90 minutes at Auxerre," Dixon recalled. "That sort of performance gives you a lot of satisfaction - although I would rather win 5-0 every week. It was not just the back four, we had a lot of defeace in front of us. That is when a team shows it has good team spirit."

They were equally resolute in Arsenal's last game during which Man-chester. United were kept at bay. Dennis Bergkamp afterwards described the defence as the best he had played with while Alex Ferguson noted. The defence is still Arsenal's cornerstone, their great strength." David Platt added: "They are the main reason I came here. I knew the defence gave the club a good base."

It is largely a working relationship. Doult to get to ly as we live all over the place," Adams said, "but the boss is into camaraderic.

I cannot imagine playing without it now," Dixon said. "When you watch so occasionally pop out together." Their average age is now 31. How long can they go on for? Don Howe, one of the game's leading coaches, said: "Their sell-by date is a long way off yet. They will be good for this season, and a couple more." Good news for Arsenal, but bad

news for forwards and linesmen.

Leeds wrestle with a welcome problem

How to honour an arriving Swede? Middlesbrough's fans had it easy when their boy from Brazil, Juninho, made his appearance - don the sombreros, cue samba bands, nothing too tricky. Leeds United's supporters may need to think a bit harder about their welcome for Tomas Brolin, the club's record £4.5m signing, who will be presented to them at today's home match against Chelsea. Volvos? Smorgasbords? Per-

haps they will simply sing some-thing by Abba - "Money, Money, Money" would do nicely in the circumstances. The Swede's transfer from

Parma, all off according to his agent three days ago, has finally

gone through, following a late hitch over the paying-off of Brolin's Italian contract, which had seven months to run.

A delay in registration means that Leeds supporters will have to wait before they see whether Brolin, who has failed to earn a regular place in Parma's team since breaking an ankle last season, can link up as expected with the predatory Tony Yeboah. "I am not on top form now, but

said yesterday. "I hope you re-spect that and then I will show you what kind of player I am." Another member of the Premiership's foreign legion, the Romanian international Dan

I hope to be in a month," Brolin Petrescu, has his chance to show

Mike Rowbottom on the weekend's Premiership action

Chelsea's following what kind of player he is as he makes his debut following his £2.5m move from Sheffield Wednesday. Other overseas players also

face challenging afternoons -Dennis Bergkamp experiences his first north London derby when he lines up for Arsenal against Tottenham at White Hart Lane, and the Aston Villa striker Savo Milosevic, who has played two midweek internationals in four days, needs to rally himself to face the Premiership leaders, Newcastle,

for whom Peter Beardsley, now 34, will be making his 650th League appearance.

Beardsley's midweek experience for England was the ultimate in frustration - he was recalled from the touchline after Terry Venables reconsidered his decision to bring him on as a substitute. But the evening was hardly less unsatisfactory for Liverpool's Jamie Redknapp, whose sixth-minute departure from the field with a hamstring injury precludes him from the Merseyside derby at Anfield.

Stan Collymore, who has kissed and made up with the club following his outburst in a magazine, has also been forced out of contention because of his

mother's sudden illness. Good auguries, perhaps, for Ever-ton, who have not won here

since 1987. Juninho, meanwhile, has had his first taste of the English winter, braving freezing conditions in training and, according to Boro's assistant manager, Viv Anderson, taking it in his stride. On a day when even the player-manager, Bryan Robson, wore gloves, the Brazilian did not. He did, however, opt for tracksuit bottoms.

Considering brough's opposition today, he would be well advised to keep them on - he has his first meet ing with Wimbledon's Crazy Gang at Selhurst Park.

for Euro 96 England, the hosts for next summer's European Champion-

England seeded

ship, have been confirmed as one of the four seeded teams. Uela's Committee for the European Championship, meeting in Geneva yesterday.

announced that England will be seeded along with the holders, Denmark, and Germany and Spain, who have been nominated because of their superior playing records during the qualifying campaigns for last year's World Cup and Euro 96.

England have been placed in Group A. which will be contested in London and Birmingham, although the hosts will play all their group games at Wembley.

Aston Villa v Newcastle

Johnson is given his third start of the season by Ville efter impressing as a substitute in the 4-1 win at West Ham a fortnight ago. Midfielder flownsend is ruled out with the foot injury. Newcestle's Clark has won his fitness ace after missing the lest three matches and is likely to start in place of Watson. Blackburn v Nottm Forest

goals, especially with the emphasis

Arsenal put on set-pieces. I can re-

member taking corners. Steve would

flick them on and there would be

Tony, diving in head first among the

Indeed only four players have scored more than Adams' 28 goals

during this period. Bould, mean-

while, has seen off a string of centre-halves: David O'Leary, Gus

Caesar, AndyLinighan, Colin Pates

and Martin Keown. Some have had

League Cup successes of 1993, even

scoring the winner in the FA Cup fi-

nal. O'Leary played in much of the

The quartet have had to ada

various changes. "People said the pass-

back rule would cause us problems but

it happening on the old Match of the

Days it even drives me mad." Then

there was the change in the offside law

which, added, Dixon, "just means we have to be more careful."

er behind Adams and Bould.

flailing boots.

Berg is likely to take the place of m-jured centre-half Pearce at the heart of the Blackburn defence, with Ken-na filling in at right-back. Winger Rip-leys fit to return, England hero Stone is expected to shake off a slight Actives tendon injury to take his place in an unchanted line, up for Freet in an unchanged line-up for Forest.

Bofton v West Ham

Botton v West Harn
Botton are considering using recent
£Im Yugoslav signing Curcic in a tree
rote in midfield. Outchman De Freitas
is set to deputise for Firmish striker
Pattelainen, who has failed to recover
from a gran strain. West Harn replace
the suspended Dicks with Rowland.

Leeds v Chelsea

Mattheway Indiana.

Leeds v Chelses
With new signing Brolin a spectator,
left-back Dongo returns after a fivematch absence in place of Pemberton, who is suspended, Speed is
expected to recover from an anklet
jury. Chelses have an injury criss, with
nine players out, including Guilft, Sincler and new signing Prician.
Liverpool v Everton
Collympars arturn froit seminol could?

Collymore's return for Liverpool could be delayed after his mother was rushed to hospital. McAtzer will start in place of the injured Redinapp, who imped off in England's match against. Switzerland on Wednesday, Joe Royle has an unchanged Everton side. Manchester Util v Southa Suspensions mean changes for both sides, with Keane - out until Christ-

TEAM **NEWS**

creation – starting a four-match pen-for United and Southampton without Le Tissier, who serves a one-metion bart. Because of Keane's absence, McClair, Sharpe and Beckham are m

Shoffield Wed v Manchester City ingesson's £1m depenture to Italian club Bari last week has left manager. Pleat with a selection poser. Pearce could step into the defence, while Sirton is fit again. Goaliteeper Coton re-turns to City's squad for the first time Tottenham v Ars

Spurs are expected to include Sherington despite the striker picking up a slight strain in England's 3-1 win over Switzerland. Midfielder Wilsonover switzerland. Midfielder Wilson-should shrug off a slight injury. Arsenal striker Hartson replaces the sus-pended Wright. Wimbledorr v Middlesbrounts

Booku could be in Wimbledon's fine-up after a knee injury but Fitzgerad and Fear are suspended. Reeses could return after recovering from a thigh-strain. Middleshough are glving funess checks to player-manager Robson, Bermby and Cox.

TOMORROW QPR v Coventry

Qusen's Park Rangers have an injury
doubt hanging over Smctair, who returned from England duty with a knock
sustained in training, Middleder Hollowey and full-back Bardsley are both
beginning suspensions. Covertry expect to give a debut to £1m signing
Shaw and are boosted by the return
of goalleeper Ogrizovic.

It wasn't pretty, but it did at least allow the grass to grow back across the middle of the pitch, and it did bring victories

Success in football is an elusive mistress, especially for those poor unfortunate souls who plight their troth to England's smaller clubs. We usually count our victories in small handfuls and are grateful for any minor triumphs. In my defence I can only claim a hereditary defect - my father and grandfather had in their turn stood upon the windswept terraces of Elm Park, and they were careful enough to ensure that subsequent generations of the family should be indoctrinated at an age when they were too young to know any better.
The 1970s were a particularly

difficult time. All the kids at school supported Leeds, or Liverpool, with a few oddballs who claimed allegiance to Arsenal or maybe Spurs. Imagine,

then, the strain of remaining loyal to a Reading team who had celebrated 100 years of existence in 1971 by being relegated to the Fourth Division. Defeating Aldershot, or managing to avoid being the only team to lose at home to Work ington in a season, were to be causes for celebration.

That's not to say that we didn't have our moments. The year Sunderland beat Leeds in the FA Cup final Reading met them in the fourth round, and apart from the first 20 minutes of the replay at Elm Park, when they scored three goals. I thought we played really well... But success in the league

evaded us, and I had left school

before we scrambled our way.

temporarily, back to the Third

Division. It was during one of

FAN'S EYE VIEW No 120 READING

almost avoided relegation back to the Fourth Division, that Robert Maxwell decided that by merging Reading and Ox-ford United he could create a new "super" team in the south.

Strange chap, Maxwell... But success was not far off. Ian Branfoot brought his brand of "long ball" footie to Elm Park. It wasn't pretty, but it did at least allow the grass to grow back across the middle of the

BRIAN CODLING then walked away with the Third Division title. Revenge, at last, for all those years of

It was not to last, of course. We managed two seasons in the Second before sliding back a di-vision, where we felt more comfortable. But relegation year also saw us at Wembley. Michael Gilkes' final penalty of a shoot-out against Coventry sent us towards the twin towpitch, and it did bring victories. ers for the Simod Cup final.

Not by any means a Mickey Mouse Cup. No - Simod was the competition to win in 1988 and Reading duly won it: 4-1 against mighty Luton Town (well, they were in the old First Division then). Reading had won at Wembley - and in my lifetime. The pleasure of that somehow made the fol-

sion football bearable again. We had, however, tasted the good life, and we were to taste it again. We raced away with the Second Division title and, for the third time in 120 years, we were in the second highest division in the league. Season upon season of chasing rare victories at Scunthorne, Hartlepool and Mansfield were replaced with one glorious year of success. We beat Middles-

lowing seasons of Third Divi-

brough away, we hammered Wolves at home, in front of real television cameras and, in the final game, we defeated Charlton to finish second.

In any season other than the last, Reading would have won promotion. We would have been playing in the Premier League. As it was, we had to fight through the play-offs. Away to Tranmere we won 3-0 and in a dull second leg we long-suffering fans had time to look around Elm Park in prepa-ration for the visits of Man-

chester United and Liverpool. Wembley - for a second time. Within 20 minutes Reading were 2-0 up. It was almost unbelievable. But the bubble burst and, horrifyingly, Bolton hit back to win 4-3. Even now, it is hard to bear...

Bruno happy at Hearts

The Hearts manager, Jim Jefferies, yesterday completed the

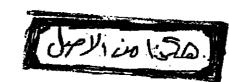
Scottish football

signings of his three-man foreign legion until the end of the season. The French goalkeeper Gilles Rousset, the Italian delender Pasquale Bruno and the Swedish striker, Hans Eskilsson, are preparing for their first Edinburgh derby tomorrow against Hibernian at Tynecastle.

Bruno, the former Juventus and Torino defender, has impressed in a three-match trial,

and has accepted a contract to stay at Tynecastle until the end of the 1996/97 season. "I like Edinburgh and the Hearts fans have been very good to me since I came here," he said.

Hearts are likely to be without the Scotland defender Dave McPherson while Hibs have injury worries over the forwards Keith Wright and Kevin Harper, but Andy Millen could return after a knee injury for Alex Miller's side. Tomorrow is also derby day in Glasgow, with Celtic travelling to Ibrox to face the champions, Rangers.



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England reach

Gascoigne has become the first player to be accused of spending too much time lifting bar bells and not enough lifting bar bills

On Wednesday night Paul Gas-coigne managed to complete a ducted on his hamstrings by oppomatch without any additional damage to the injury which has most recently threatened his career: the bruised scar tissue on his forehead and elbows. This latest in the catalogue of knocks that constitutes the Gazza career was incurred during a scuffle masquerading as a football match between Rangers and Aberdeen last weekend. This event has attracted the attentions of Glasgow police, a force which, after previous involving the likes of Terry Butcher and Duncan Ferguson, seems to enjoy nothing more than a football match. They are auxious to talk to Gascoigne, and others, at the ear-

liest opportunity. No wonder against Switzerland Gazza played like a man relieved, a man happy to be away from Glasgow. His new workplace, he claimed, is putting his fragile emotions un-

sition centre-backs.

"I'm a target now," he told The Daily Mirror on Tuesday. "The pressure is always on me. I can't go out and get pissed. It's not worth it. I get followed if I go to a club or pub, so I'm trapped in my hotel. I have been

for two months.

Instead of drinking to pass the time, Gazza has been doing prolonged work-outs, an additional effort which some experts claim has contributed to the collection of minor ailments to which he is prone. Which makes him the first player to be accused of spending too much time lifting bar bells and not enough lifting har bills.

With the mayhem of an Old Firm derby to look forward to tomorrow, Gazza's humour could not have been much improved had he. in the prison cell that is his hotel

room, caught sight on Sunday night of a Channel 4 documentary called Football, Faith and Flutes. A sort of one-camera refutation of the Glasgow's Miles Better campaign, the programme painted a portrait of a city not so much obsessed with football as prepared to go to war

"I'm not a violent man," explained one lad, the seams of his Rangers shirt being tested to their limit by his beer-bloated nether regions. "As soon as you see the first flash of green or a Republic jersey, something inside of you snans. "They call themselves Protes-

tants," said a skag-wasted youth, bony arms dangling from the sleeves definition of an atheist: a bloke who bony arms dangling from the sleeves of his hooped Celtic shirt. "But they're just saying they're Protestants because they want to be different from the Catholics: most of them are





watch the football. And if Gazza has reading matter

by the side of his bed, let's hope, for s present state of mind, it is not

morous approach to fitba life in loathing to contend with, yet re-Glasgow (like the apposite Celtic sisted the need to resort to the el- a regular participant in that old Satchant at Duncan Ferguson when he was a Rangers player. 'He's tall, he's skinny, he's going to Barlinnie.") Walsh still finds room for contributions like this in his fan's eye account of rivalry.
"I detest the Old Firm matches

because the atmosphere is nothing short of poisonous." An excited place Glasgow, undoubtedly. But might it not strike Gazza - and those so ready to accept his explanations - as odd that so many players have been thrown into this pressure cooker and managed not to barricade themselves in their hotel room. Without wishing to condone for a moment the kind of hatred which is so often dismissed as part and parcel of the game, players like Paul Ellion and Mark Wal-Which is a new one of those of Stephen Walsh's Voices of the Old ters, for instance, had even more

bow. Even Maurice Johnston, the first man to pull off the difficult trick of enraging both sides when he was transferred from Celtic to Rangers, occasionally managed to

slip out for a quiet drink (albeit by dint of going out in Edinburgh). Moreover Gazza ought to be used to a bit of pressure and local interest by now. His last three places of employment have been Rome (not exactly short of passion). London (awash with flesh-pots and tabloid photographers) and Newcastle (where the locals have been known to get excited in footballing matters). What appears to be his problem is that, unlike some of his contemporaries, the words quiet and drink seldom appear in conjunction in his life. Fame has, apparently, not dulled that propensity

Firm. While he takes a more hu- than straightforward sectarian for drawing attention to himself urday night ritual on Tyneside: getting chinned down the Bigg Market. When he arrived at Rangers, a hoarding appeared above one city centre drinking hole which read: "From the world's greatest pub to the world's greatest player: welcome to Glasgow

> Whoever is to blame, it is clear that the love affair between Gazza point. This week's pronouncements sound like the preamble to a divorce. If, as is claimed, the country's finest talent's future depends on finding somewhere where his sanity is not put in jeopardy by the passion of his surroundings, the sooner he moves to Nuneaton Borough the better. Once there, he'd doubtless complain of boredom.

Becker gets his sums just right

Boris Becker reached the semifinals of the ATP Tour World Championship yesterday but it needed a pocket calculator to finally determine if the German had qualified.

A 6-4, 7-5 victory over the Russian Yevgeny Kafelnikov earned the triple Wimbledon champion his second victory in the last round of matches in the round-robin group stage.

Becker finished with the same 2-1 record in matches won and lost in the white group as the American world No 1, Pete Sampras, and South Africa's Wayne Ferreira. But Ferreira was edged out of the two semi-final places from the group because he had the marginally poorer record of sets won and lost.

In today's semi-finals of the year-ending championship. Sampras will play his compatriot to play against," said Graf, Michael Chang while Becker takes on Sweden's Thomas Enqvist, who won the red group.

Sampras won the white 5-2 in sets won and lost. But the two per cent difference in the sets won between Becker and 3-6, 6-2, 6-1 win over the sixth

was enough, with Becker winning four of his seven sets played compared to Ferreira's

five out of nine. Earlier the former French Open champion, Chang broke a dismal run of form at the event when he reached the semi-finals at his fifth attempt with a 6-2, 7-5 win over his compatriot Jim Courier.

In the women's end of season tournament in New York yesterday, Steffi Graf continued her mastery over the American Mary Joe Fernandez with a 6-3, 6-4 quarter-final victory at the WTA Tour Championships.

The win on the blue carpet at Madison Square Garden put Graf into the semi-finals for the eighth time in 11 consecutive appearances in the 16-player event. The top-seeded German has now beaten the American in all of their 13 encounters.

"Her game is a game I like winner of eight titles this year including three of the four Grand Slams. "Even though she is aggressive, she gives me time

Anke Huber brought more success for Germany with a Ferreira in the Festhalle arena seed, Kimiko Date of Japan.

Broncos prepare to scale new heights the first time in their 15-year a remarkable turnaround which Rugby League has made London a team to be Their impressive sequence respected. has included defeats of Leeds. Robbie Moore, the Broncos London Broncos will scale new chief executive, said: "Every-Castleford and Halifax, and heights tomorrow if they beat Warrington at The Stoop, home last Sunday they set a new club thing's going very well on the record with the 82-0 rout of field for us. of Harlequins rugby union club. The capital club are the team Highfield in the second round "We have a few problems in of the moment, having won of the Regal Trophy. defence, but most teams have It is all a far cry from just over that when they are trying to

five of their last six league games to rise dramatically up the Stones Centenary Championship table.

Another victory this weekend leading four of the top flight for ent club, Brisbane, has sparked

The battle between Wigan and

Barrie-Jon Mather has been

stepped up with the club transfer-listing the centre at

£150,000 but Mather and his ad-

visors insisting that he is not

theirs to sell, writes Dave Had-

field. Mather walked out on the

club this week, claiming that his

The Wigan chairman, Jack

Robinson, is equally adamant

that all their agreements with

the player have been honoured.

"I am very disappointed with his

attitude," he said. "We have

teenagers, Paul Johnson and

Neil Baines, to their squad for

tomorrow's match against

Bernard Dwyer, the St Helens

forward, is another dissatisfied player. He has been listed at

£95,000 after being told that his

contract will not be reviewed

Leeds have brought in Fran-

cis Cummins and Mike For-

shaw, in place of Paul Cook and

Gary Mercer, who both drop to

the bench for the match against

Sheffield Eagles. Cummins will

also take over Cook's goal-

Sheffield have Paul Broad-

bent back after concussion, but

Ian Hughes and Keith Senior

Greg Mackey will be on the

out with viral infections.

until the end of the season.

Workington.

kicking duties.

Wigan have added two more

Wigan put Mather

on transfer list

two months ago when the Broncos propped up the table after osing their first four games of the season. But the arrival of

bench for Warrington against

the London Broncos at The

Stoop, despite his plan to return

home to Australia next month.

good about it and I'll play when

they want me to until the day I

fly out," he said. His replace-

ment at scrum-half, Mike Ford,

continues in that role against a

London line-up selected from

Oldham, already depleted

by injuries, will be without Afi

Leuila and Chris Part for their

match against Castleford. Both

tackles, Part for one match and

Hull, who meet Feather-

a caretaker coach. Russ Walker.

following the resignation of

Phil Windley. The club was al-

ready due to announce a per-

manent appointment within

in the Second Division, where

Hunslet return to the area of

their name after an absence of

the new South Leeds Stadium.

which is just a few hundred

yards from the site of the Park-

side ground they left in 1973.

Leigh are the first visitors to

There is a landmark occasion

a full-strength squad.

cited by Sheffield.

the next few weeks.

22 years.

The club have been very

fans. London will move above Halifax - although they will have played two games more - if they beat Warrington. "It will give us even more credibility," Moore

throw the ball around. We are

aware we have to provide enter-taining football to attract the

Strugglers Oldham meet Castleford, who have had a disastrous fortnight - losing at home to London, crashing out of the Regal Trophy to Carlisle of the Second Division and then beaten 42-20 in midweek

by Wigan. Castleford promote Richard Goddard and Andrew Schick from the bench, with Simon Middleton reverting from centre to the wing in place of the injured Tony Marchant, and the Australian Schick takes the second row place of Stuart Flowers.

The England stand-off Tony Smith will again be at scrum-half but Castleford are still without their Kiwi second rower Brenoon luula as idev look id bounce back from three successive defeats.

Leuila for four after being Oldham, second to bottom in the table with just two wins all stone and their new signings season, have lost their last three home league and cup meetings with Castleford. from Bradford, Deryck Fox and Roy Powell, will be under

The St Estève second rower Bernard Cartier has received a four-match ban following his dismissal in last Saturday's Regal Trophy tie for a deliberate head-high tackle against

Workington. The Huddersfield prop, Adrian Toole, shown the red Leeds from which they take card for a dangerous tackle against Featherstone, was originally suspended for two games but that was reduced to one game on appeal. That means he will be available for the Regal Trophy third-round tie against Wigan on 26 November.

England reach final

England are one match away from the World Team title after dispatching Egypt's semi-final challenge in Cairo yester-

The match revolved mainly around the opening secondstring rubber between Chris Walker and the world junior champion, Ahmed Barada.

which England took 6-9, 10-8, 9-1, 9-7 after 72 minutes. Egypt's resolve appeared less determined in the rest of the match with Amir Wagih losing the first-string rubber, 9-5, 9-2, 9-0 in just 37 minutes to Del Har-

ris and Ahmed Faizy falling to Mark Chaloner, 9-2, 9-6, 9-5. In the play-offs for 13th place, Ireland were beaten 2-1 by Hong Kong and Scotland lost by the same margin to Argentina.



Comets move

Baskethali

NBA: Oriando 89 Indiana 80; Houston 1.15 Mi-waules 87; Sacramento 105 Portland 102: New York 1.20 Golden State 97; LA Cappers 103 Van-couver 99.

BUTTES

BIROPEAN INDOOR TEAM CHAMPHONSHIP (Jersey) Women: Singles: Scotland (J Lindores) to Wales (R Junes) 7-2 7-3 7-5; Guerney (A Smoot) to Ireland (M Johnston) 0-7 7-4 7-3 7-2; England (J Roylence) to Jersey (N Steed) 7-4 7-5 7-1. Foams: Guerney (K Renout, J Bagin, J Nicolle, C Ingloude) it Wales (C Morgin, V Howells, J Davies, A Demon) 29-12; Jersey (K Hormen, S Neg, S Syver, J Lewerly its Scotland (M Adams, J Woodley, S Gourley, J Conlan) 19-17; Interd (M Wilsereon, D Smyths, M Scotl, D Band) Crew with England (J. Jaman, J Thomas, E Bessel, M Procel 15-15.

David Shepherd was yesterday named

as England's umpire for next year's World Cup in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The former Gloucestershire beasman was named as one of 12 National Grid um-pires to officiate at the month-long tour-

nament. Each of the host countries

chose two umpires with the other six

Choise TWO LIMPLES WITH THE OTHER SX Test countries normating one each. 1,996 WORLD CLIP UMPHRES: India: V k Ra-massamy, S Venkataragenen. Palaistam: Knor-er-Hayer, Mahboob Stah. Sri Lamke: B C Cooray, KT Hancis. Australia: S Randal. England: D Shepterd. New Zealend: S Dunne. South Artica: C Machie; West Indies: S Sucinor. Zim-babwe: I Robinson.

They have the Budweiser League's leading scorer, Russ Saunders, and tonight they open the country's newest arena, but Newcastle Comets are still bottom of the table,

pions put the gloss on their move to the Tyne tonight when the 8,000 seat, £10m Newcastle Arena opens for business with their league game against Doncaster Panthers.

wonders to improve their luck. The Comets finished bottom of the league as the Scorpions last season and they are bottom of the table again with just one win from five games. Veteran Saunders, the

league's all-time leading scorer, is also top of the points stats this season with 154 points from five league appearances at an average of just over 30 points per

class. If the guys don't get a lift by playing there then nothing will lift them," Saunders said." Comets have not won a league game since beating Hemel Royals 104-99 on the opening day of the season. Leicester City Riders have beaten Chester Jets to sign England's women made a solid start to the first Test against India in Calcutta yesterday. Put into bat, England reached 1.17 for 1 after rain forced an early finish to the first day. The openers Jan Brittin and Helen Plimmer forged a 108-run first-wicket partnership before Barbara Panlels (700) come to the wirdset Britshafe. Daniels (7no) came to the wicket. Brit-tin, of Surrey, hit six boundaries in her unbeaten 66 while Plimmer (Yorkshire) had two fours before falling for 42.

Football

Kingstorian's FA Cup second-round tie at home to Plymouth Angyle has been switched to Sunday 3 December (1.30pm). Bradford City's home te against Preston North End will kick off at 5pm on Saturday 2 December and will be televised live by Sky Sports, as will Famborough's first-round replay against Brentford next Wednesday. Dan Petrescu, the Romanian international full-back, has completed his transfer from Sheffield Wednesday to Chelsea. Sheffield Wednesday to Cheisea.
Coford United were yesterday given planning parmission for a £15m stadium at Minchery Farm on the southern edge of the city. Work is due to begin in the

new year and Oxford hope to move in for the start of the 1997/98 season. TOT THE SCRIT OF THE 1597/96 SCRISON.
TRANSFERE? Peter Beadle (forward) Warford to
Bristol Rosers (£30,000); Dass Sabilin (forward)
Hommarby (Swe) to Binningham Cry (trial).
LOWN TRANSFERE: Michael Vosit (statender) Manchesser City to Otthant, Wayne Bigglas (forward)
Odord Utd to Wigars, Michael Rose (forward) Pymouth to Explor.

DAY'S LATE RESULT: Ueta Under-18

Japan) Leading second-round scores (Japan smices stated): 133 P Senior (Aus) 69 R4, 126 R Gernez (US) 66 69, 136 M Ozaki 65 70; B Lane

R Comez (US) 66 69. 136 M Coald 65 70; B Lane (CB) 64 72; T Matton (US) 69 70; L Nation (US) 69 67; B John (US) 69 67; H Susak 69 67; B John (US) 69 67; H Susak 69 67; M Rusamon 68 68. Selected: 140 P Weiton (GB) 70 79.

HONG KONG OPEN Landing eponed-normal scores (US maless stated): 132 R Albaron (Mo) 65 67. 135 Y Chang-ing (Ta) 67 68. 136 F Cesse (Phi) 72 64; A Cruse CSA 69 67. 137 A Parter (Aus) 69 66; G Webo (US) 68 69. 139 J MRMs Singh (Ind) 72 67; P Jones (Ca) 71 68; A Albed (but) 70 67; K Sun-bet Sk And 70 69; R Chagun (US) 69 70; G Nicksus (US) 67 72. Selecting: 140 S Tomarca (CB) 71 69.

140 S Tomerce (GB) 71. 69. VICTORIA O'FEN (Albourne) Leading second-round scores (Ausumbos stated): 140 °6 Ogby 70 70. 144. 1 laylor 69 72; 1 Chiford 69 72; 6 Vesurg, 71 70. 142 S Corran 70 72; L Stophen 72 70. 143 °8 Parindige 70 73; L Parsons 70 73; M Cleyton 75 66; M Harwood 72-71. Selecteds 148 G Evens (GB) 75 73; 8 Jackson (GB) 74 74. 153 S Bottonley (GB) 75 78; denotes amoteur ALPINE WOMEN'S AUSTRALIAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP (Royal Pines resort) Louding second-round scores (Aus unless stated):

134 A Sorenstein (Swe) 66 88, 137 S Williams 58 69, 138 L Neumenn (Swe) 86 72; A Nicholas (GB) 68 70, 139 C Nismeni (Swe) 69 70, 140 K Webb 68 72, 141 K Otum (Den) 68 73; S Waugh 68 73; A M Knight 71 70; S Bellotti 70; 1; Mikin 72 71; N Lowier 71 70, Selectiad; 142 M Machi 181 70 72; L Denes (GB) 72 70.

Hockey

NML: Boston 2 New Jersey 2 (o/t): Flonds 2 Van-couver 2 (o/t): Printdebyns 5 Ottaws 3: Toronto 5 Tampa Bay 4 (o/t): Clucago 3 NY Rangers 1; St Louis 3 San Jose 1; Los Angeles 9 NY Islanders 2

BRITISH LEAGUE First Division (Thursday): Chaimsford 5 Bracknell 7; Manchaster 15 Pe-

Motor racing The last Australian Grand Prix in Adelaide, won last weekend by Damon Hill, is expected to make a profit of ASIm (£488,000), only the second time the race has made a profit in its 11 years in Adelaide. The Formula One event, which attracted a world record attendance of 511,000 over four days, was worth about ASSOm to Adelaide.

ROYAL LIVER ASSURANCE UK CHAMPHONSHIP (Presten) First round: B Morgan (Engl leads S Reardon (Engl 5-3;) Hagare (Soo) leads M King (Engl 6-2; 6 Wilstram (Engl leads) Prince (Miri) 7-1. Matches resume J. Oprn today.

SOURCESTA

MEN'S WORD TEAM CHAMPIONSHEP (Cairo)
Semi-fines: England 3 Egypt 0 (C Welker to
Armed Baratia 69 10.8 9-19-7; D Herre to Arme
Weigh 9-5 9-2 9-C; M Chalones to Ahmed Fasty
9-3 9-8 9-5). Play-offs: Hong Kong 2 Ireland
1 F Khan to D Rain 9-7 19-9-5 6-9-9-6; Line
to to S Richardson 1-8 9-6 9-2 2-9-8-10: W
Was Hang or C Collins 9-3 8-3 9-4]; Argentina
2 Southard 1 (F Usandizate to A 1-yaor 7-9-3-9
10-8 9-0 9-2: A Resta by D Gordon 6-9 5-8 95-7-9-7: E Albelo lost to 8 Sutherland 3-94 6-9 5-9; Spatha 2 Italy 1; Notherlands; 2
Singhaporo 1; Kravelt 2 Greeca 1; Japen 2 Portugal 1.

SHERO
KYUSHU GRAND TOURNAMENT (Fukusta)
Shift day: Kirshima (won 3, lost 3) bt Asanosho
(3-3): Tornoonbara (2-4) bt Angyama (3-3): Kisheachidol (3-3) bt Oganhara (3-2): Konstalla
(3-3) bt Kesugaluji (3-3); Asahuyuska (4-2) bt
Hanancahma (2-4); Higoroura (3-3) bt Oganhad
(3-3); Krajaho (2-4) bt Kyokadozan (2-4); Akinosuma (5-1) bt Deshaho (4-2); Asanowaja (3-3)
bt Masacani (3-3): Namyonaja (2-4) bt

Kotobeopu (2-4); Dashi (1-5) bt Nenko (1-5); Tosanoumi (4-2) bt Minatohu; (4-2); Kotonasu-na (2-4) bi Wakashopu (2-5); Takohore (3-3) bi Musopama (2-4); Tochrouwka (3-3) bi Kao (4-2); Watashorana (5-1) bi Notomowina (3-3); Ko-tonishi (5-1) bi Musophimaru (5-1); Takonorami (4-2) bi Maroumi (2-4); Takanorama (5-1) bi Testo (0-6); Akebooo (5-1) bi Mitokumi (2-4).

MERTS ATP CHALLENGER (Resmice Island, Mau-rifius, selected) Singles second round: W Kowal-sia (Po) bt M Petchey (GB) 5-7 6-2 6-4, Quarter-final: T Herman (GB) bt L Tieleman (D) 6-2 6-3. 6-2 6-3. WTA TOUR CHAMPIONSHIPS (New York) Quer-ter-finals; S Gest (Ger) bt M J Fernandez (US) 6-3 6-4; A Huber (Ger) bt K Date (Japan) 3-6 6-2

VOLVO WOMEN'S OPEN (Pattays, Thai) Singles foorth round: 8 Paulus (Aut) in A Osza (Poll 6-2 2-6 6-4) in Ing Jun (And 6-3 3-6 6-2; N Klymura (Lapen) by Wang Stu-ong (18) 6-4 4-6 6-4.

TEMCO WOMEN'S CHALLENGER (Edinburgh) Singles comi-finate: S Noortanger (Neth) bt S Smith (GB) 6-2 6-4; Lumous (Rus) bt M Manze-ha (Aut) 7-6 3-6 6-2.

Weightlifting

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of gold watches that the departing driver Gerhard Berger handed out to members of the Ferrari Formula One team as a thank you for their support during the season. Berger, replaced by Michael Schumacher, has moved to Benetton.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK i don't know of any other

industry that would lay out £8.5m on anything and then not have some plan from day one on how they're going to use it. Stan Cosymore. Liverpool striker, who is out in the cold. -

We will show you a couple of explosions in your back yard. Jornal, Lorne, before New Zealand's match against France last Sunday:

Ithink be most have had his tongue firmly in his check. Bar-bara Clough on her husband's interest in the manager's job at

I'll buy Bryan Hamilton a buttle of whisky, duty-free be-cause it costs less. lack Charlton, on his debt to the Northern ireland manager whose victo-yover Austria: kept the Re-public's hopes of qualification for the European Champi-

onship alive. think I'm off my trokey, but Der-mot Reeve is the kind of character I'm looking for Jonathan Hayward, Wolves chalmen, on the search for Graham Taylor's SUCCESSOF.

III If I played for Scotland my grandma would be the proudest woman in the country, if she wasn't dead. Mark Cros Nottingham Forest's Barns ley-born goalkeeper, on his elbility for the Scots.

He was on fire. I have never seen something five that. It was like a freight train hit me. I have just got heaten up and I'm brulsed all over. Borts Becker after being defeated by Pete Sampras at the ATP Tour Championship in Frank-

Dutch stand firm to edge out S Africa

Hockey

With Great Britain not in action yesterday, interest focused on South Africa's game against the Netherlands. Both teams had lost their opening games, Bill Colwill writes from Cape Town. The Dutch took a quick free hit from just outside the circle

which found their captain, Wietske de Ruiter, unmarked to open the scoring after 10 minutes. The Springboks swung back on to the attack, and equalised through Caryn Bentley, but the midfield and convert their Dutch retook the lead three penalty corners.

Showdown for Reading

Hockey Association Cup, which marks the first appearance of the National League sides, taking place tomorrow there is a rare full programme of Saturday National League hockey, writes Peter Colwill.

League leaders Reading and Old Loughtonians, level on points and undefeated, meet at Chigwell. Both sides recruited heavily during the summer and have been scoring freely. Loughtonians may enjoy a slight edge after putting six goals past Teddington last week. Cannock, in third place, play Surbiton, who are fifth. Guildford, the Cup holders, St Albans hosting Hull.

With the third round of the have home advantage on both days - against Barford Tigers and Second Division Harleston Magpies - but Teddington, who have featured in the last four finals, travel to Dereham who lead the Adnams East Premier a potentially hazardous trip into the east to play Ipswich the Premier A Division leaders.

Havant at home to Stourport and

Britain today face Germany in a game in which the team that holds their nerve and takes their chances will win. It is essential that Britain keep their width, move forward from the

seconds before the interval, then increased their lead mid-

way through the second half.

back through Bentley, and when

the Dutch were reduced to 10

players following the temporary

suspension of Suzan van der

Wielen, the Springboks were un-lucky not to share the points.

South Africa pulled a goal

B Division. Southgate also face

game. "The arena is excellent. It's Nottingham, second in the DTZ Midland Premier and Cup winners in 1976, pose a threat to Slough who are one place off the bottom of the National League Second Division. There are two all First Division ties with

SPORTING DIGEST

Jonathan Edwards, the world triple jump record holder, is one of 10 world champlons in the nunning for the international male athlete of the year award. Edwards' rivals are Donovan Bailey (100m), Sergel Bubka (pole vault), Halle Gebrselassie (10,000m), Michael Johnson (200 and 400m), Moses Riptanul (steeplechase), Noureddine Morceli (1500m), Dan O'then (decathlon), Ivan Pedroso (long jump) and Jan Zelezrw (lavelin). The winner with be and hope for change of luck Jan Zelezny (javelin). The winner will be announced in Monte Carlo on 9 De-

Baseball Mo Vaughn, the Boston Red Sox first baseman, has been named the American League's Most Valuable Player, edging the Cleveland Indians outlielder Albert Balle in one of the closest votes in history. Barry Larkin, of the Cinchristi Reds. writes Duncan Hooper. The former Sunderland Scorbecame the first shortstop in 33 years

The move will have to do

Abe Ahmed, the 6ft 9in former Birmingham Bullets junior.

In defence of the Highbury Four 30

FIRST TEST: Russell frustrates South Africa after Hick's long vigil but elements conspire to lengthen odds on victory for tourists

Tide and time turn against England

MARTIN JOHNSON reports from Pretoria England 381-9 v South Africa

In the space of about 15 minutes vesterday. Centurion Park went from 6,000 feet above sea level to (at least in appearance) something like 6,000 feet below it. Maybe it is a trick of the memory, but it rarely seems to rain when England need it to, and this was one of those comparatively rare occasions when they most certainly did not.

After an electrical storm of frightening intensity vesterday afternoon, the sun will have to be up early this morning for the umpires not to be making their pitch inspection from a glass-bottomed boat, and England - decent position though they are in - cannot afford to lose any more time than vesterday's washed-out final session in the first Test.

This pitch is far too slow to make batting uncomfortable against anything other than the new ball, and some of England's batting yesterday, in contrast to Thursday's uplifting counter-attack, would have had some of the more senior South African spectators reminiscing about the timeless Test in Durban in

Resuming at 221 for 4, it was important for England to dig in for a while against the second new ball, but it was bit much for Graeme Hick to potter around for a further two hours and 35 minutes in adding 36 runs in 39 overs to his overnight 105.

Hick is a puzzling character. in that no one really knows what he is thinking, and there are times, one suspects, when he cannot have too much of a clue either. Having come close to demoralising the South African attack on Thursday, he batted vesterday as though he had celebrated with several pints of liquid valium.

It was certainly no thanks to Hick that the electronic scoreboard blew its fuses during the morning session, when it was able only to transmit the information that England were playing South Africa. Ordinarily this would not have been regarded as a piece of essential information but, with Hick and Robin Smith at the crease, some spectators would probably have needed reminding.

aggressive than Hick (his first scoring shot was a square slash for six over gully off Shaun Pollock) but Pollock's riposte brought back nasty reminders of Smith's cheekbone injury while-

Photograph: Graham Chadwick/Allspor ightning strikes a flooded Centurion Park in Pretoria yesterday, dampening England's hopes of forcing a first Test victory

Having been told that another blow around the left eye socket might blind him, Smith added a grille to his helmet, and just as well that he did. Pollock hit (or would have done without the grille) the identical spot, and for perhaps the first time in his career. Smith might

reer, Pollock has acquired a repbatsmen than even Allan Donald, and if he is to replace Hick was on 125. Donald at Edgbaston as War-

sional next summer, many opposition batsmen will doubtless. be earmarking the champions as the ideal fixture to start feeling a twinge from the hamstring.

Smith certainly gave the impression yesterday that he was happier facing Donald than Pollock, especially when hitting the semior bowler out of the athave preferred to be facing a In a comparatively short ca- four balls, although Donald did have the bad luck to see utation for hitting more Brian McMillan miss a sharp overhead chance at slip when

> When Smith was comprehensively bowled by McMillan

shortly before lunch, Hick really ought to have taken charge, but instead he appeared happy enough (in the time before he was out leg before, playing across the line to a straight ball from Pollock) to leave this to

Russell, having been abandoned by England for 14 Test matches in 14 months, made something of a point about his batting with his 91 against the West Indies in the final Test of the summer at The Oval, and on this tour he has looked in better form than most of the specialist batsmen. His value to

the side is even more prodition to scoring tuns, he gets right up the opposition's nose. His batting style is so frus-

trating - all shovels and deflections - that bowlers lose direction with everything bar the bad language. Russell's method of leaving the ball alone also instroke, and anyone not directly behind the arm would imagine themselves to be watching a total incompetent.

However, with England not getting anything like the runs they were expecting from the

nounced for the fact that in ad- worth (Gough looking awful in an unwise attempt to curb his natural aggression) Russell's 50 not out was crucial to England's cause. Umpire Cyril Mitchley lat-

er revealed why he halted play. "Tve never stopped play before because of the threat of lightto lightning strikes. One of them was killed while playing in a local league cricket match," he said. "I acted under Law 43 [which is non-existent] - common sense.

Australia's mixed day, page 28

Birmingham

Centurion Park scoreboard

A R C Fraser not out (37 min. 20 balls, 1 lour) Overs, 350: 542 min, 123.4 Overs, 180 agrasshoped play at 3.24pm. Rusself.s-30:-155 min, 119 balls, 10 fours.
SOUTH AFRECA: A C Hudson, G Mystell, "W J Cronje, D J Culjanan, 10 M Robellan, 10 J Richardson, C R Metthews, S M McMillan, 10 J Richardson, C R Metthews, S M Addict, B M Schutz, A A Dongid.
Usaphress: C J Minnhey and S Venkstanagistan. 1V Replay empires: D L Oxford Magos, reference, C H Lindi.

DPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, | Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL [

Booting: Donald 33-10-92-2 (w1) | 5-2-4 van. TV Replay cropire | 0, 3-1-4-1, 5-2-8-0,5-3-10-0, 3-0-17-0, referee: C-H (tojd.

nd printed at Marror Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford Registered as a newspaper with the Peat Office

PHIL SHAW

Kenny Dalglish, who has taken a hack seat at Blackburn since their championship success, was yesterday linked with the hot seat vacated by Graham Taylor at Wolves. Asked to respond to a report

in a Wolverhampton newspaper that sources close to him "insisted" he was waiting to be approached by the Molineux board, Dalglish did not deny his interest. All he did say was: "I don't comment on speculation", which may or may not suggest he would at least be interested to hear what Wolves have to offer.

pool to numerous honours before resigning due to pressure and resurfacing at Blackburn, relinquished the manager's job at Ewood Park to Ray Harford during the summer. He remains on the payroll under the title Director of Football, although his day-to-day involve-ment with the first team has lessened considerably.

Whether that is a source of regret to the 44-year-old Scot must, however, be doubtful. His new role may be ill-defined. but it has allowed him to spend more time with his wife and young children, as well as indulging his passion for golf. Moreover, he is settled in round trip from Molineux. The challenge of leading an-

other fallen giant back to former glories might appeal to Dalglish, but Wolves' owner, Sir Jack Hayward, has stressed that he is not in the same financial league as Jack Walker. The Wolves chairman, Sir Jack's son. Jonathan. said: "We are sifting through the possible contenders and are keen to keep the field wide open."

Tomas Brolin yesterday completed his £4.5m transfer from Parma to Leeds, but too late to be able to play at Chelsea today. Oldham have agreed a £450,000 fee for the Everton striker. Stuart Barlow. Everton will get £350,000 now and a further

Dalglish linked with Wolves vacancy

a certain number of goals. Macclesfield is to be the base for the Republic of Ireland squad preparing for the European Championship play-off against the Netherlands at Anfield on 13 December. Jack Charlton, the Republic's manager, has decided against Dublin because he feared public and media interest would have been too intense in the Irish capital.

If the play-off is level after 90 minutes, 30 minutes extra time will be played - with the tie being settled by the first goal scored. A penalty shoot-out will be used if the teams fail to score during extra time. Euro 96 seeds, page 30



Brolin: the Swedish striker finally signed for Leeds yesterday for £4.5m

may sue Ancona men

Birmingham City yesterday said they may take legal action against the Ancona coach, Massimo Cacciatori, and several of his players following Wednes-day's brawl at the Anglo-Italian Cup tie between the two clubs. The Blues' coach, David

Howell, the captain Liam Daish and defender Michael Johnson are under investigation by Italian police after being named by their opponents as the culprits in the violence. If charged and found guilty, they face jail terms of up to three years. The Foothall League has launched its own inquiry.
Birmingham's owner, David

Sullivan, said: "We will oppose extradition, if it comes to that. They assaulted our players in the first case on the pitch." Caeciatori and the Wrexham referee, John Lloyd, were both taken to hospital after the brawl, which occurred after the match.

In a statement released yesterday. Birmingham claim that Cacciatori received his injuries when he fell and hit his face on the ground after being pushed away hy Daish, who "feared for his life" when the coach at-tacked him on the way to the dressing-rooms after the match. "It is our intention to con-

sider our position before deciding to take action against Cacciatori and against Ancona players," say Birmingham, who msist none of their players retaliated, despite being spat upon, elbowed, punched and kicked by their opponents. Cacciatori is alleged to have run on to the pitch several times to join in the scuffles.

We are horrified that the good reputation of Birmingham City and cur players is being damaged by the most outra-geous comments sent out from Italy." the statement concludes. Ancona may decide not to play their next Anglo-Italian tie, at Luton on 13 December.



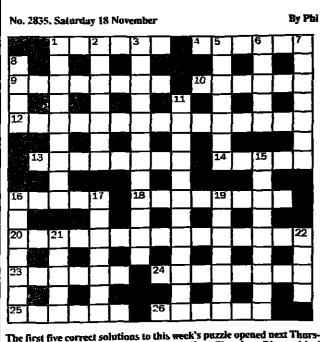
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THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the excellent Chambers Biographical Dictionary, worth £35. Answers and winners' names will be published nxt Saturday, Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4018, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London £14 5BL. Please use the hox number and postcode. Last week's winners were: JE Green, West Sussex; Mr N Long, Bristol; CA Hill, Nottingham; Mrs M Draper, Liverpool; Mr MD Peace, Bournemouth.

ACROSS

Job given to a student of letters (6)

Gentlemen, disorganisation is holding the Royal Society back (6)

Always back-pedalling about incomplete at-tempts to rescue (8) I'm involved with a den and lion? Not half! (6)
A blow and a mistake making Spoonerism in

melodrama? (5.3,7)
13 Rule riot out of order, having a hidden agenda

14 Make certain missing recipe is to come next

Range further - East, South (5)
'Elpful clue recalled huge quantity in calculus

(8)
20 Aim of scientific cranks always suitable for de-

A group of policemen in charge could be sharp

Detailed points first-rate Trade Union recalled

Last drop of water found in drier tool (6) A vast appetite at one? (6)

Friday's solution UNO TOIL

DOWN Supervised Irishman turned up drunk? (9)

Courage required when going round top parts of dodgy looking shaft (7)
Visited aunt irregularly, bearing nothing for the occasion (12) Girl's to give lead to English wartime traveller

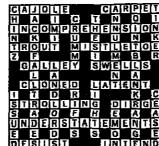
Hurried round one engaged in espionage (5) Encouragement to go round Lake, say, on ris-ing? Push the boat out! (7)

A place for drinking that's upset Muslim? (4)
Try to get involved in marketing the art of fiction? (5-7) Frightened if I have entered covered in

scratches (9)
Openings in port and harbour snatched by a sailor or lar (7) Completely clean access to field, perhaps, for Oucen to enter (7) Small ball to shine mostly blue, flickering (7) Greek character coming round in the money

22 Want one editor to trim margins unevenly? (4)

Last Saturday's solution



Jamie Freeman F problem with fox year he lost 30 to

Then he bought After that I dickn problems. If a for the field the Mann him away by star Or by spitting at

en fork:

INSIDE STOP

Dear Mr Broccoll Ms probably have

of cause in the

political correction

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sets of the latest

Yours, M (Retd.)

時間





New York: a city on the edge

page 19

Photograph: Colorific

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INSIDE STORIES

- Dear Mr Broccoli,
 It's probably harping on a
 lost cause in these times of
 political correctness, but to
 my aged tastes there simply
 aren't enough bikini-clad
 lovelies draped around the
 sets of the latest Bond...
 Yours, M (Retd.)
- Jamie Freeman had a problem with foxes one year he lost 30 to 40 lambs. Then he bought a llama. 'After that I didn't get any problems. If a fox comes into the field the llama will scare him away by staring him out. Or by spitting at him'
- Randy Newman recalls the 'Short People' tour. 'Midgets picketed me. I got death threats. I played 3,000 seaters in front of 300 people. Managers would try to console you, saying a lot of people showed later, or there were a lot in the grassy knoll area'
- Roy Conway went along the queue offering croissants to those at the front who had been waiting in line for at least two days. What was the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that had enticed them and 2,500 others to the former GLC offices that weekend?

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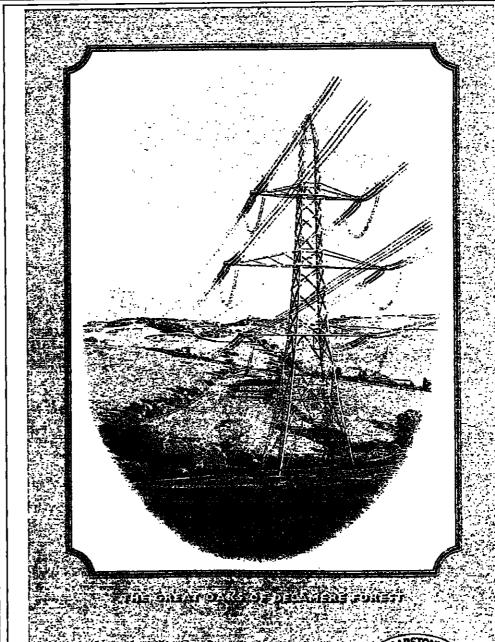
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MANY THINGS HAVE GOME FOR A BURTON THESE DAYS — BUT THANSFULLY NOT IN BURTON. MAISTON'S PEDIGREE REMAINS THE GOLDEN PINT IT WAS IN GOOD OLD JOHN MARSTON'S DAY, BECAUSE IT'S THE ONLY BEER STILL BREWED IN WOODEN CASES.



Brave heart



Diana Rigg returns to the National in triumph with 'Mother Courage' page 4

Sellars beware

The director critics love to hate makes his debut at Covent Garden page 5

Public dancer Dickie Fantastic

gets his moment with Tina Turner page 5

Tsar man So who did kill the Russian imperial family? page 6

Short cuts

Everything you ever wanted to know about 'Crime and Punishment' page 6

Private lives

Philip Hoare on untangling the life from the legend of Noel Coward page 7

The number of visitors is not important. It's the quality of the visit that is my concern," Dr Alan Borg, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, was reported as being on the verge of saving the other day. My apologies for the clumsiness of that sentence, but the chronology of modern news management can make these things tricky. Dr Borg hasn't made this remark yet - he's only written it in an article for Antique Collector which is "to be published". Then again, perhaps the warning that he's going to say it counts as a statement in itself, in which case we can stop messing about and get on with business. Unless of course, having had a preview in print of what he's about to say, he decides he's going to

change his mind. I hope not, because at first glance there is something

What price two million visitors if they all move through the galleries in that dutiful touristic shambles that can afflict the best of us? Why not test the buggers before you let them in?

magnificently patrician about Dr Borg's remark, which was made in the context of a discussion about admission charges at the V&A (he mentioned the figure of £10). The blood rises a little at the prospect of such reckless disregard for the niceties of democratic discourse, which usually prefers a mandate of large numbers. Instead of gabbling about "access" and "outreach", Dr Borg raises the issue of quality. Instead of standing at the door of the V&A with a little clicking counter, effectively reducing. the antic parade of humanity

If you look closely, you can see that even this bold spirit has flinched from the full implications of his remark; to be rhetorically consistent, the concluding sentence should read, "It's the quality of the visitors that is my concern".

on discrimination.

from such unadorned expression and uses the word "visit"

There's a certain attraction to the thought, anyway. What price two million visitors if they all move through the galleries in that dutiful touristic shamble that can afflict the best of us in museums? Indeed, why stop at a £10 entrance fee (which would certainly sharpen the concentration of most museumgoers). Why not test the bugto a stream of units, he insists gers before you let them in? After having laid down the entrance fee, prospective visitors would be required to fill in a short multiple-choice

> . 1 A flabellum is: a an ornamental stomacher used for ceremonial armour; b a

But he understandably shies liturgical fan used to keep flies off the Sacraments; c a medieval aid to weight loss. 2 The name Chippendale

is associated with: a 18thcentury furniture; b 19thcentury porcelain; c 20thcentury torsos. 3 What would you do with

a canapé à confident?: a store jewellery in it; b sit on it; e eat it. 4 Pronounce the words

cloisonné, faience, intaglio. 5. Scroll moulding is: a a fungus affecting old parchments; b a scroll-shaped ornament; c ornamental brickwork from the factory of Herbert Scroll (1867-1932). 6 One of these is not a pottery. Which one? a Zeitz;

paper along the following Zerbst; c Zanesville; d

7 If you saw a reference to museum could be transan inro box, would you think formed. Gone would be the

it was: a Bakelite; b Japanese lacquer, c a misprint.

8 Complete the following sentence in no less than 10 words: I deserve to visit the Victoria and Albert Museum because...

Potential visitors who failed to gain any marks at all would be turned away. politely but firmly. Their £10 application fee would be non-returnable. However, visitors who answered some questions correctly would receive a proportionate amount of their money back. Visitors who got all the answers correct and whose declared motives also satisfied the admission staff would receive a full refund and be given a large fluorescent badge with the motto "I'm a precious object - handle with care". In this way, the atmosphere of the

dutiful trudge of tourist hordes, "doing" another of the sights. Gone would be the raucous clamour of schoolchildren visiting the

Sockshop Gallery of Hosiety. Yes, there would be fewer visitors, but the quality of their experience would be greatly refined. Little would disturb the reverential, scholarly hush of the galleries but the occasional thump of a falling body, as a visitor succumbed to Stendhal's Syndrome and fainted under the exquisite pressure of acsthetic contemplation. It's true that the door would have been closed to those poor in education or money; that the free opportunity to be lifted above the ordinary might have gone. But you have to make sacrifices if you want

Answers: 1 b; 2 a; 3 b; 5 b;

See Exit Poll below

Albert Cubby Broccoli Producer of: 'Goldeneye'

From: Admiral Sir Miles Messervy RN (Retd)

Ref: Cdr. James Bond (007)

Without wishing to disparage the valiant and patriotic efforts of my successors to the post of "M", I feel that this latest effort of yours, to wit Goldeneye, serves mainly as a miss Carly post of the public consciousness by a Miss Carly As with many other artifacts of British popular culture (Dr Who, Beatles LPs, Political case scandals fals many the James Road film reached its significancy high regime.

As with many other artifacts of British popular culture (Dr Who, Bestles L.P., political sex scandals, fab gear), the James Bond film reached its evolutionary high point in the mid-10x0e and attempts to recolong its commencial life Keeping this point in the mid-1960s, and attempts to prolong its commercial life beyond this date chould be viewed with eventicien I save force it Othe none refree to east into date. in the mid-1901s, and attempts to prolong its commercial me beyond this date should be viewed with scepticism. Let's face it, Cubs, none of its is getting any in the standard medical should be viewed with scepticism. Let's face it, Clibs, none of its is getting any counger; post-imperial malaise, post-Cold War drabness and the deadening hand of principle of principle react alcrine at heart command at younger- post-imperial malaise, post-told war drabness and the deadening hand of more dire embarracements.

John Major have rendered all revivals of Britain's past glories at best camp and at worse due embarrassments.

Points That Should Be Considered Before Undertaking Further Missions on the Pattern of Goldeneye:

1: To start with the obvious, to Bond film worth its Double-O rating should star anyone but Sean Connery circa 1963. While Mr Brosnan certainly fails to plumb the depths of Messrs Bio Tam. To be fair. Sean Connerv circa anytime between You Only Live Twice and Never Say. Big Tam. To be fair. Sean Connery circa anytime between You Only Live Twice and New Say.

Never Again suffers from exactly the same inability to commete with his wanteer sail. Big Iam. 10 be Iair, Sean Connery circa anytime between You Only Law Iwice and Never Say.

Never Again suffers from exactly the same inability to compete with his younger self that has

an in order to the same in order to the same in order to the same of the same order. The same order to the same or Never Again suiters from exactly the same mability to compete with his younger self that has so hobbled his successors, all of whom - as is sadly evident in chase scenes - run like girls. If so nobbled his successors, all of whom - as is sadily evident in chase scenes - run like girls. If further missions are to ensue, Mr Brosnan will need to return to GCHQ for a refresher course in europeillance to RADA for a tors-in in evehrous-raising and off-the-culf authoring further missions are to ensue, Mr Brosnan will need to return to GCHQ for a retresher course in surveillance technique, to RADA for a top-up in cyebrow-raising and off-the-cuff quipping and to Savile Row for instruction in the wearing of fine clothes. and to Savile Row for instruction in the wearing of fine clothes.

pening credits. Mr Brosnan is certainly up to the demands of posing with a gun in a blood-filled iris, and it gives me pleasure to commend the title sequence of Goldeneye as biood-tilled ins, and it gives me pleasure to commend the title sequence of Goldeneye as exactly the mix of Pop-art surrealism and naked lady silhouettes that made these pre-videoexactly the mix of top-art surreausm and naked lady sunduettes that made these pre-vide clip illustrated songs such an essential part of the sexual education of Sixties schoolboys.

Ting Three and this Roam fellah inet won't de Cup mustrated songs such an essential part of the sexual education of sources schoolboys.

However, in the absence of Shirley Bassey, Tina Turner and this Bono fellah just won'l do.

The art of calerting a performent to belt out the Road title cong is to find compone who However, in the absence of Shirley Bassey, Tina Turner and this Bono tellah just won't of the art of selecting a performer to belt out the Bond title song is to find someone who the avant month the film is released but some impute. If the art of selecting a performer to beit out the Bond title song is to find someone who perfectly encapsulates the tastes of the exact month the film is released but seems unutterably and the selection of th nair and passe by the time it makes its capie IV debut: sterling examples are mait monto, Nancy Sinatra, Wings, Sheena Easton, Rita Coolidge, Duran Duran and, of course, a-ha Miss Timer, it capital for the particular of the part Nancy Sinatra, Wings, Sheena Easton, Kita Coolidge, Duran Duran and, or course, a-na. M. Turner, it seems, is quite likely still to have a career when Goldeneve makes its network TV. debut, which lets down the side more than a tad.

3: Bond Girls. It's probably harping on a lost cause in these times of political correctness, and to mu anad tactor thorn simply aren't enough hikini-clad lovelies draned around the entering of the content of the con but, to my aged tastes, there simply aren't enough bikini-clad lovelies draped around the sets of the latest Road. If I haven't missed something. Road only actually has explicit case with the but, to my aged tastes, there simply aren't enough butint-ciad toveues graped around the sets of the latest Bond. If I haven't missed something. Bond only actually has explicit sex with the of the latest Bond. If I haven't missed sometting, Bond only actually has explicit sex with heroine, which is fairly feeble compared with the bedpost-notching even the early Roger heroine, which is fairly leeple compared with the peoposi-notening even the early roge Moore managed. And no, Judi Dench does not count any more than Lotte Lenya did.

Including Commission and Engage Inspector are vinitage eniff equipment with real Joore managed, And no, Judi Dench does not count, any more man Lone Lenya did.

Izahella Scorupco and Famke Janssen, however, are vintage stuff, equipped with real names Izabella Scorupco and ramke Janssen, however, are vintage stutt equipped with real almost as silly as their screen cognomens, they emerge from the requisite international matter floating bicease of forms with I lead almost as silly as their screen cognomens, they emerge from the requisite international obscurity and seem to bid fair to prove a match in their fleeting kisses of fame with Utsula Rarbara Rock I nie Chilac Mand obscurity and seem to bid fair to prove a match in their fleeting kisses of tame with Ursula Andress, Daniela Bianchi, Claudine Auger, Mie Hama, Barbara Bach, Lois Chiles, Maud Mc Ianssen, however, shows a deal too much acting Andress, Daniela Bianchi, Claudine Auger, Mie Mama, Barbara Bach, Lois Unies, Maud Adams, Tanya Roberts and Talisa Soto. Ms Janssen, however, shows a deal too much acting the month has a shame if the were to break the month has being the only Adams, lanya Koperts and lausa Soto. Ms Janssen, however, snows a deal too much acting ability and humour; it would be a shame if she were to break the mould by being the only action of the control of active and numour: it would be a sname it sne were to break the mould by being the only Bond girl to capitalise on her debut and go on to do other notable work. Honor Blackman and Dian don't count herause their more connected Assessment before their Bond. Bond girl to capitalise on her debut and go on to do other notable work. Honor Blackmand Diana Rigg don't count, because they were successful Avengers before their Bond

Outings, and don't mention Jane Seymour or Britt Ekland.

If there is an element of Goldeneye that can be reckoned entirely satisfactory it is the aforey mentioned Ms Janssen's showing in the traditional role of Villain's Cirifriend previously taken. If there is an element of Oolaeneye that can be reckoned entirely satisfactory it is the aforest mentioned Ms Janssen's showing in the traditional role of Villain's Girlfriend, previously taken by the ladies fed to piranhas or done in Van Onde I in Traing and Manimber has also rading the ladies fed to piranhas or done in Van Onde I in Traing and Manimber has also rading the ladies fed to piranhas or done in Van Onde I in Traing and Manimber has also rading the ladies fed to piranhas or done in Van Onde I in Van Ond mentioned Ms Janssen's snowing in the traditional role of villain's Curimend, previously taken by the ladies fed to piranhas or dogs in You Only Live Twice and Mooraker, but also taking on sterling additional duties with her thinh muching accessinations which qualify her for the by the ladies fed to piranhas or dogs in You Only Live Twice and Moonvaker, but also taking on sterling additional duties with her thigh-crushing assassinations, which qualify her for the equally traditional part of Villain's Gimmick Sidekick, as represented by Oddjob from Goldfare or laws from The Sov Who Loved Me. The inrv is still out on whether Venia Ondropo is an. equally traditional part of Villain's Citmutck Sidekick, as represented by Oddjoo nom Congression of Press, who Loved Me. The jury is still out on whether Xenia Onatopp is an exortic enductor thanks name in the Flemino mould (Puser Onatore Honey Rider), or the Plemino mould (Puser Onatore Honey Rider). ger or Jaws from the Spy who Loved Me. The Jury is still out on whether Xenia Onatopp is an exotic enough character-babe name in the Fleming mould (Pussy Galore, Honey Rider), or merely silly promoting more titlers than ourse

4: The Villain. It is here that Goldeneye is most sorely lacking. Though he has a megalomanic personal grudge against 007. Sean Bean's Janus just isn't up there with the likes of Dr No. personal grudge against (VI7, Sean Bean's Janus just isn't up mere with the likes of DT 1941.

Auric Goldfinger or Ernst Blofeld. For one thing, he is too spartan in his personal tastes; how can make a smendthrift Martini-swiller in a roch car seem symmathetic unless he is up: Auric Goldtinger or Ernst Blofeld. For one thing, he is too spartan in his personal tastes; no application of a multi-villionality detentations and the hollow out a volcano maint Chirles Eaton. can we make a spendimin Martini-switter in a post car seem sympathetic timess he is up a against a multi-zillionaire ostentatious enough to hollow out a volcano, paint Shirley Eaton with a control of the control of t against a muiti-zunonaire ostenianous enough to notiow out a voicano, paint Shirley Eaton with real gold, own a famously stolen real painting or keep a nuclear reactor in the garden. Plus that lightly corrugated scar isn't deformity enough to comnete with Joseph Wiseman's metal hands. real gold, own a lamously stolen real painting or keep a nuclear reactor in the garden. Plust that lightly corrugated scar isn't deformity enough to compete with Joseph Wiseman's metal hands

5: Other Features. It is our pleasure to commend you for taking care to include a baccarat 5: Other Features. It is our pleasure to commend you for taking care to include a pactarial session at Monte Carlo; some mild flirting with Miss Moneypenny; the correct recipe for a second Martin: a chase invadeing an Actor Martin: a comedu evens with dodders old Decree. session at Monte Cario; some mug turung with Miss Moneypenny; the correct recipe for a volka Martini; a chase involving an Asion Martin; a comedy scene with doddery old Desmond Vooka Martini; a chase involving an Aston Martin; a comedy scene with doddery old Desmond. Llewellyn saying. "Now, look here 007" as extras self-destruct in the background; experimental scale which iner hanner to be exercifically martially martially scale." Liewellyn saying. "Now, look here uu/" as extras seir-destruct in the background; experimental gadgets which just happen to be specifically useful in a tight spot; and an underground secret." ageis which just happen to be specifically useful in a tight spot; and an underground secret shorts as in the hikini extra denormant, this might almost his market similation of the old base which can be speciacularly blown up for the big tinish, indeed, if it wereart for a decroed Bond (Brosnan excepted).

6: Tepicality Let's face it. Cubby, all this attempt to keep up with the post-Cold War world is hit amharesesing. And didn't wan do it in The Sax Who Loved Me with its KGR heroine if a bit embarrassing. And didn't you do it in The Spy Who Loved Me, with its KGB heroine, if a bit embarrassing. And didn't you do it in the Spy who Loved Me, with its N not in From Russiu with Love. Bond's expense account lifestyle seems out of the cilliant moment in Coldman owner. not in from Russiu with Love. Bond's expense account messyre seems out or place in the cutback-driven 1990s - the silliest moment in Goldeneye comes prace in the constant iven 1990s - the source moment in Conteness con when Judi Dench has to get approval for Bond's mission from a Prime Minister was bound to account in dank and diskages. John Maior should Minister we have to assume is drab old ditherer John Major, though Major would actually be too intimidated by a stem lady like De Judi to put up any resistance, and most of the rest of the Michaels in his cabinet have been auditioning for the role of Bond villain for years. However, considering 007 first spied for England in the austere 1950s, when rationing and carbolic were the order of

the day, he could hardly be accused of ever being in touch In conclusion, I should have to think most carefully before recommending a renewal of your Double-O license. There will certainly have to be a greater effort in the procurement of swimwear models and dastardly foreigners and it would do your cause no harm at all to pop back to 1963 in a Tardis and regenerate Sean Connery I remain very faith-

fully yours, absence by

KIM NEWMAN

Royal National Theatre The Machine Wreckers by Ernst Toller in a version by Ashley Dukes



Box Office 0171-928 2252

Cottesioe Theatre: 21 Nov at 7:30pm, 22 Nov at 2:30pm

exit poll

We put this to

people visiting

the museum

this week

(for free)

How much would you pay to go to the V&A?

Mrs Simons, retired, Elstree: Alan Borg, the £10 is worth it. but I don't think that the New director of majority of people can afford it. There are other museums to go to, and I'm afraid they'll outprice themselves. the V&A. suggests that Mr Grant, 29, traveller, South Africa: most visitors could afford a

"Goldoneye" is on general release in cinemas from next Friday.

I suppose it depends on your interests, but just a normal traveller or normal tourist who is not especially interested in art is not going to pay. About £4 is OK for admission, and less for students. £10 entry fee.

Ruth Lovegrove, 19, student, Cardiff: It's worth £10 on the basis of what I've just seen, but they're already taking that off us in taxes, so I wouldn't be prepared to pay that, especially as a student. I think it's best just giving donations: I'd give a donation but if it was demanded I wouldn't agree with it, because it's heritage and we should be able to see it for nothing.

Oliver White, 17, sixth-former, Devon: I wouldn't pay £10. I wouldn't pay the price they suggest here as a donation, £4.50, myself. I would have thought £2.50 was about normal; that's what they've charged at most of the other galleries I've been to,

Lesley Griggs, floral designer, Gloucester.
I honestly don't think you should have to pay for museums. I would pay, personally, but I think there are people who can't afford £10 admission. I think maybe up to £5, with a reduction for children, might be acceptable.

and this one isn't my favourite at all.

Mark Campbell, 36, businessman, London: Though it's probably worth paying, maybe this is what they should be using some of the lottery money for. I often come here, but I would not really be happy if they were to start charging; I would certainly cut

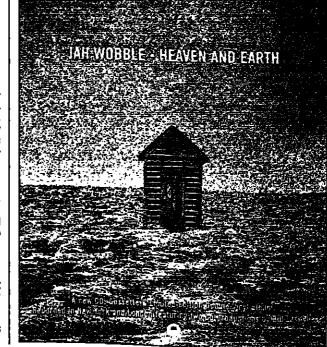
down on the number of visits I make,

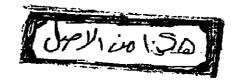
Graham Taylor, 40, airport employee, Heathrow It offers everything to everybody, particularly the student, but I think £10 is a bit excessive. I would say about £5, £5.50, but I can remember coming here with my father and getting in for free, though you could make a donation. I think this is free enterprise going a little bit too far.

Wendy Hanford, 45, housewife, Haywards Heath: For what's actually in there I expect that it's quite reasonable to have to pay, but I doubt ordinary people living around London could afford it. £10 is way too much per visit.

Luke Arpidge, 58, company president. USA: I'd be happy to pay £10 to see what I've seen, and I think most tourists would, though I guess people living locally would object.

Interviews by Scott Hughes







notions about what it is to be a singer-songwriter. On his records, he has never been relentlessly confessional or bracingly intimate. He has never vers a song so breezy, you barely and greatness remains. But it stared out at us mournfully from an album sleeve, dressed heavily in corduroy and velvet and alone, except for, perhaps, a wine glass or a French newspaper. He has rarely sung to us in his own voice. His songs sit him inside the characters of others, many of whom have unpleasant things to say - about their wives, about people from other races, about, most famously, short people. In some respects, Randy Newman's whole life in the music business could be read as one long preparation for his most recent step. which is to play the Devil.

This happens on Newman's latest record, Randy Newman's Faust, no less than a comic take on Goethe, with an all-star cast (James Taylor, Bonnie Raitt, Elton John, Linda Rondstadt and so forth). In London to promote this unlikely item, Newman sits, rather incongruously, in a hot and astonishingly chintzy hotel room, wearing a white open-necked shirt, black trousers and expensive-looking shoes. Equally incongruous, an electric piano has been installed for him, in among the repro furnishings. Newman's voice is loud and still hears traces of his New Orleans origins (he refers to one of his five children as "my eldest bo"). He laughs frequently and noisily. but normally at fairly black things. Greil Marcus, in his great essay on Newman in the book Mystery Train, used the phrase "slot-mouthed", which is just right for the slightly combative tension in Newman's lips as he sings and also as he talks.

"A straight 'I love you', " Newman says, "is almost beyond me, whether because of shypess or honesty. Nevertheless, stuff I do sounds like me for the most part. This album [Faust] feels like the true me all around. Obviously I'm writing for character so it isn't my sentiments always. But so what? Why does it have to be a psychoanalytic medium where you're spilling your guts? No one does anyway. People forget it's showbusiness."

People forget a lot of things, when it comes to Randy Newman records. Like no one else's, his career is strung through with large-scale misunderstandings.

love it!") was taken up proudly as is the work of someone with a big the campaign song for the Los brain", though, as he quickly Angeles Olympics. A decade later, LA DJs still spin it for drinotice what you're breezing past. ("Look at those cars, look at those trees, look at that burn. man, he's down on his knees.")

Then there was "Short People", a piece of blunt bigotry, set to a mildly insidious piano riff. "Short people," as Newman famously put it, "got no reason to live." This would be a very different song if Newman himself were short; it would have an altogether less dizzying satirical spin. It might even come across as a victory for the little man. But Randy Newman is six feet tall.

And then there was "Sail Away", in which a slave trader stands before his cargo in Africa and informs them: "In America, you'll have food to eat. Won't have to run through the jungle and scuff up your feet." "Climb aboard, little wog," be sings, "sail away with me."

"I don't try to provoke hatred," Newman says. "There's that old playwright's cliché: 'I don't care what they think. They can hate it as long as they're listening to it and feeling something. Well, I don't want people to feel hate for me. I don't want them to think that I'm a bigot when I write a song like 'Rednecks' or 'Christmas in Capetown'. It makes me nervous to play them live. But I can't not write them. This is just the way I write."

here are layers here that

don't necessarily prompt widespread television and radio coverage. Hence consistent mainstream success has eluded Newman. At 51, he is still bothered by this. "I may write good songs, or interesting songs, he says, "but they haven't proved to be hit songs. It's possible the public taste will turn around and people will say, We can't get enough of this irony. Oh, we love irony, driving along the Freeway." Here, a black laugh.

"But it hasn't happened yet."

It's probably fair to say that Randy Newman's Faust is not a great Freeway record, though it has other virtues. For instance, there probably hasn't been an

adds, the Newman version is one "in which none of the grandeur appealed to me, the relationship of the Lord and the Devil. There's a lot in there about the unfairness of the world - the Devil can't reconcile himself to that and neither can I."

the songs for Faust as long as 15 years ago and had been chipping away at the book for a full-blown musical. (A stage version was put on in San Diego recently.) Eventually he decided to distill the work into an album and went to his address book in search of a cast. Some fairly unforesceable rock-theatrical fusions result. For example, Don Henley of the Eagles plays Faust as a college freshman. "He infused it with such hate, it was fine." Newman says. "The idea of him saying, Bless the children of the world, please bless us', is so repulsive that I really like it."

Newman had written two of

James Taylor, meanwhile, "is sort of Nick Faldo as God, Things come easy to him. His desk is completely empty, and there doesn't seem to be anything there. The Devil can't understand why he keeps losing out to this guy. He thinks he's smarter. But he's not." (It would, of course, be overinterpretative to read into this any relation to the careers of Newman and Taylor.) Taylor, apparently, was largely untroubled by the notion of playing God. "It's all showbusiness anyway," Newman says, "whether it's Mick Jagger pretending to be a street-fighting man or James Taylor pretending to be God. Who knows what's

more bizarre? Elton John, as an angel, represents one of the album's more surprising inclusions. John and Newman were not names one would necessarily put together. "I'd met him at aftershows," Newman says. "He's not a pai, but I admire him and I think he likes my stuff. We're different people, definitely. But he's such a great rock 'n' roll piano player - one of the all-time top five. Actually, he could have played God."

As yet, Newman says, he has had no fall-out from Faust. This would have to be fairly remarkalbum this funny released in able for a record on which God

n a career lasting more than His hymn to Los Angeles, "I years. It is also, in places, musi- and the Devil, in a rare moment the hardest for me. And I try to realising that all us old phutzes doing enough to keep me in quarter of a century, the Love LA," with its merciless cally spare and poignant in the of gleeful togetherness, duet keep the best part of me for that, don't want to get off the stage. We don't think it's selling enough to cause a problem," Newman says, and looks suddenly mournful. "If it reaches a wide audience it may make a noise, but it's going awfully slow. Actually, it's pretty disappointing what it's done. I have never earned less money in my life than working on a theatrical show and this album. Since I was 16, I generally got paid for what I did - including playing for my mother when she was sick. But writing a show, you go for ever without seeing a dime and I can't afford it."

> had imagined a composer of Newman's stature would know a degree of financial stability. No," Newman insists. "It's the case that I have an ex-wife and lots of kids and I don't know what it would take to make me financially comfortable. If I were Elton John or Billy Joel, maybe I would be comfortable. I don't live high, but if I were to really cut back and live in a two-room flat. I guess I could live the rest of my life out on royalties. But I've got

> to work to earn a living." The most lucrative work Newman does these days is composing for Hollywood, in the tradition of his uncles, Lionel, Emil and Alfred, all film composers. Newman's film credits include Awakenings, Ragtime, The Natural, The Paper and Parenthood. Most recently he has scored two animations for Disney, listening to Prokofiev and "antic Russian stuff" to get into the mood.

"On movies, you get the refreshing opportunity to subdue your ego. What you're doing is 15th in importance on the movie. I fight and yell and take it personally when they change anything, and I hate the people who do it and I wish they were dead. I'm too difficult. You've got these bosses and you're answerable to some guy who bought a CD player so they re an expert on music, or some guy whose aunt doesn't like oboes."

Newman makes it clear that film composition offers him nothing like the same sort of challenge, or satisfaction, as songwriting. "It feels like life and death at the time, but it's not. Writing a song on your own, sit-ting there with nothing, is about

two. "They get along. The twoyear-old and the 26-year-old have quite a bit in common, all in all.")

"I've never had a clear-cut hit

that was good for me," Newman

says. "I would like to have one of those - a regular double platinum sort of thing. But it doesn't seem likely. I thought 'Baltimore' might work out that way, but I messed up the arrangement. I had all these strings on it and I wrote them kind of low, and just glopped them down. It would have changed everything for me if I had had a regular hit after 'Short People'. 'Short People' did me harm. It was like having a hit with 'The Purple People Eater', a novelty hit. I did the least successful tour I have ever done on the back of that record. It was like Napoleon's retreat from Moscow, a winter tour in the South. It was brutal and they were dropping left and right. Midgets picketed me. I got a death threat. I was playing 3,000seaters in front of 300 people. The manager would try to console you by saying a lot of peo-ple showed late, or that there were a lot of people in the grassy knoll area."

On Faust, the discipline of writing for other voices returned Newman, in a sense, to the point from which he set out. Before he released his first vocal album in 1968, he had graduated in musical composition at UCLA and become a \$50-per-week, jobbing songwriter for a company called Metric Music. His songs were picked up by, among others, Alan Price ("Simon Smith and his Amazing Dancing Bear"), Judy Collins, the Walker Brothers and Manfred Mann. Even now, Newman says, he might sit at the keyboard and compose a song for Prince or for Sting. "I never show it to them or anything. It's just an exercise, to see if I can do it - if the harmonic vocabulary's there, or if I'll learn something doing it. Then I just tuck it away. I can usually do not a great Prince song, but a fairly representative one. I'll do that when I think I'm drifting too far out of the mainstream."

Nevertheless, Newman says, "I've got a feeling I'm sort of at the end of it. I was at the beginning of it all, when singer-songwriters were saying. Tm not going to be doing this when I'm 30, I'm not going to be doing this when I'm 40... The younger people are and nothing happened and it worried me. And I've just made this record and whatever it is, it's about the best I can do at the time, and it doesn't have maybe enough rock 'n' roll on it. It's a hard record to assimilate, but it's

doing this thing, I don't feel a American composer Randy
Newman has overthrown
many of our most cherished
notions about what it is to

American composer Randy
Newman has overthrown
man says he was drawn to
Goethe's classic because "it really
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Goethe's classic because "it really
is the work of someone with a big
dueueing up to be missed. "I'
form man says he was drawn to
good record and no one noticed
am I going to say?" am I going to say?" There was a pause. "Did that

sound like a retirement speech?" Newman asked. Then he gave another black laugh.

"If I was to die tomorrow, the obituary would say, 'Newman, 51, the composer of "Short People" '. doing really nothing. It's not Mother would be so proud.

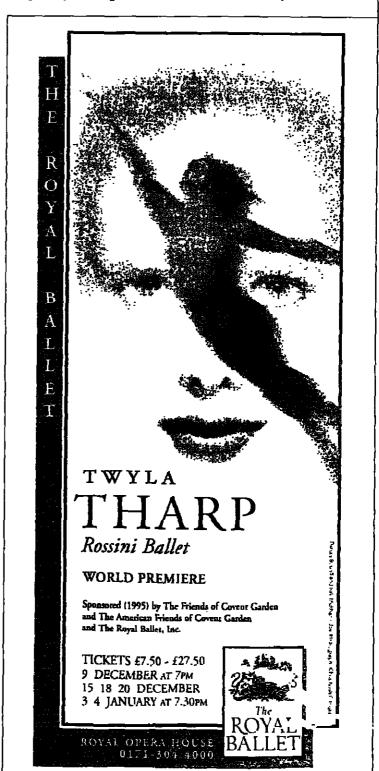
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PHOTOGRAPH OF RANDY NEWMAN BY HERBIE KNOTT

MUSIC

Grand Tango Orchestra

The South Bank plays host to that most morally deprayed dance. By Philip Sweeney

of all the gentrified roots musics – blues, flamenco and so on – tango is the least easy to appreciate in the spirit of its Afro-European 19th-century origins. On one level, the virtuoso development of the late Astor Piazzolla has made the music rarefied and cerebral. On another, the poultry-like prancings of a generative of the late Astor Piazzolla has made the music rarefied and cerebral. another, the poultry-like prancings of a generation of sequined Svens and Traceys have rendered the movements irretrievably risible to anyone who has ever watched Come Dancing. Yet, as the flier for Buenos Aires' El Queran-

di tango restaurant points out, the old tangos of the slaughterhouse suburbs were noted for deep, malevolent, sexual, violent and troublemaker content", and this was the first time a full tango orchestra had played London, since the 1930s anyway. Would the new libertine South Bank be engulfed in vice, one was agog to know, businessmen dancing with each other, knives flashing in the coffee queue? In the event, the three-quarters-full Purcell Room was impeccably subdued and earnest, only a couple of South American-looking gentlemen in toupés peering at the legs of a pretty Japanese girl invoking the faintest hint of deep sexual troublemaking.

The 11 black-clad members of the orchestra deployed in two ranks, grand piano to the left, cello to the right, five violins and one doublebassist standing at the rear, three bandoneonists seated front. Juan-Jose Mosalini Jnr and Serge Amico had leather drapes over their knees to take the writhing of the bandoneons, but the white haired Mosalini père handled his chestnut and mother-of-pearl instrument unprotected. Born in Bucnos Aires, Mosalini spent 15 years working with all the major artists of the tango establishment from Oswaldo Pugliese to Susana Rinaldi and Astor Piazzolla, before moving to Paris, tango's second home, in 1977, from which base his solos, trios and quintets have built him a substantial international reputation.

The 75 per cent French Grand Tango Orchestra is his latest creation, an attempt to re-create in Europe the tradition of the *orquestas tipicas* of the Forties and Fifties, whose last great star practitioner Pugliese died this year, but a few of which still exist in Buenos Aires. Many of the milongas and tangos in their repertoire are from the golden age band leaders such as Pugliese, Alberto Firpo, Hanibal Troila, or Seventies successors such as Leopoldo Federico. On the evidence of this concert, Mosalini's project is a complete success. The songs are short, intense and to the point, and the breaks, turns and glissandi are given a simultaneous punch and lushness by the violin section and the extra power of the multiple bandoneons. When a short solo is indulged in by Mosalini, cellist Cecile Girard or first violinist Nicolas Dupin,

it is extra powerful for its economy. The performance ended with Ósvaldo Ruggiero's Bordoneo y 900, a sort of wild snakes and ladders of vertiginous string climbs and dives on piano or bandoneon, interspersed with strutting rhythmic passages that just about allowed one to glimpse in the mix, under the layers of Buenos Aires and Paris white-tie refinement, the old candonbe dance of Argentina's black slaves aped by the poor white immigrants in the earli-, tango's forerunner. The ar was deep and violent, but entirely unmalevolent.

TELEVISION Coogan's Run (BBC2)

The worst thing you can say about the comedian Steve Coogan is that he drives a flashy car. But on this evidence, he deserves it. By Jasper Rees



George Costigan as Barry Parry and Steve Coogan as Paul Calf in 'Get Calf'

o bad things ever happen to Steve Coogan? Trawl through the huge piles of we-are-not-worthy interviews, profiles and assorted encomiums which have collectively caused the devastation of several acres of Amazonian woodland, and just the one disaster stands out. It seems that because he goes around in a Ferrari, bankrolled by his matchless talent for mimicry, drivers of humbler vehicles don't let him in at junctions.

Coogan should be the last person to be surprised by this, the first to read its signs. If his comedy has a world view, it's that you are what you drive. The vehicles in "Get Calf", the first of six playlets in Coogan's Run, don't just ferry his characters from A to B; they're a window on the soul. When we first met Coogan's smooth-but-naff salesman Gareth Cheeseman, he was perched nonchalantly on the bonnet of his smooth-but-naff Mondeo. Fat Bob (beautifully played, as ever, by the unsung John Thompson) broke down in a suitably hangdog contraption, a sort of lawn-mower cloned on to a rickshaw. Julie, Paul Calf's no-nonsense ex, drives one of those no-nonsense hopper buses.

Paul is carless because he is soulless. When he enlists with a religious sect (who travel communally in a sky-blue minibus), he is not motivated by self-improvement: he just wants to get away, and get his end away. Which, needless to say, he last did in the back of a Cortina. In exchange for money.

So, problems at junctions. Otherwise, Coogan leads a charmed ♦ After two years on the go, any other performer would have got a Ferrari.

a couple of series out of the Calfs by now. Paul and Pauline are, in effect, only halfway through their debut series. Half-hours one and two were homages to the absurdity of video diaries. "Get Calf" was more conventionally edited, so the visual punchlines were that much slicker. But, as ever, the triumph was in the details: Pauline's pink fluffy jumper, for instance, which matched baby Petula Dusty's cap; Fat Bob's packed lunch, lovingly prepared by his glorious wife, of Monster Munches and yesterday's biscuits; the prison officers who fold their arms the way prison

Hitting the spot with the little jokes bought Coogan and his co-writer Henry Normal the right to pepper the script with more direct gags, such as the newspaper spread picturing the escaped Parry brothers, who vow to kill Paul for identifying them in court. "This man is a nutter," screams one headline. "And so are these", choruses another, overleaf. "All me troubles are behind me," boasts Paul, standing in front of a shop full of TV screens with Barry Parry's murderous mug on them.

Space permitting, it would be simpler just to quote the whole script. Spool forward to the end, where - after storing up all those bonus points – the script takes its biggest liberty when Barry Parry pulls a gun on Paul, only for the members of the sect to pull many more on Barry Parry. One wild implausibility apart, this was comedy with both its feet in the real world. Coogan plainly spends

THEATRE The Country Girl

Greenwich Theatre's production shows flashes of inspiration. By Clare Bayley

good actor in a mediocre show can turn mere showbiz into theatre "with a capital T", declares a director in Clifford Odets's 1950 theatrical drama. The director (Daniel Stewart) is trying to persuade a once-great, now sozzied actor Frank Elgin to take on the lead role. Did Annie Castledine use the same persuasive techniques on Corin Redgrave to convince him to play Frank in this production? Redgrave may well have balked at taking a part that demands he act out an audition scene, during the course of which he transforms himself from a no-hoper into an actor of "power and majesty". The audition format unwisely affords the audience an insider's view, and the almost inevitable result is that you end up wondering whether another actor could do it better.

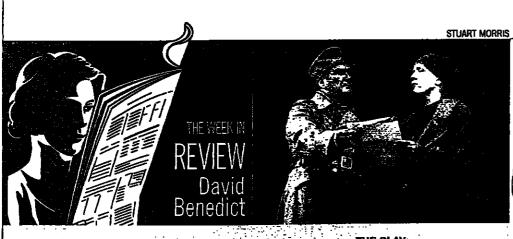
The difficulty of acting acting is compounded by the fact that Elgin / Redgrave is performing in a fictional play about which we know nothing except that its own director doesn't rate it. Why should we care whether a fictional actor succeeds in a fictional play? The focus of Odets's own work is also confused. The title refers to Frank's wife, is also confused. The title refers to Frank's wife, Georgie, whom we first meet as a drab creature, defeated by over a decade of propping up a failure and a drunkard. There are strategic plotting reasons why Frank must dominate the first half, but by withholding information about Georgie for so long. Odets risks spoiling that important initial hand between a character and the audience tial bond between a character and the audience.

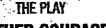
Annie Castledine's production is well judged, and pitched at the correct level throughout. Simon Banham's striking design consists of a large suspended platform which, when down, acts as a raked stage on which rehearsals take place, and, when up, as the attic ceiling of the Elgins's cramped lodging rooms or Frank's on-stage dressing room. Aesthetically and stylistically the production can't be faulted, but its characters singularly lack charisma, and there is no trace of the primal spark of attraction between people that makes the troubled relationships interesting.

The play's one brilliant stroke is that it contains a great deception which completely impli-cates the audience. When Frank tells his director Bernie that Georgie is consumed by resentment because she sacrificed a brilliant career to marry him, we believe it. Frank's claim that Georgie has been trying to make him fail ever since makes sense, and taints everything we see of her thereafter. Even with evidence of Frank's duplicity before our eyes, the first stone of doubt has been cast against Georgie. Kika Markham plays this ambiguity with the precision of a clock-maker, allowing the pendulum of sympathy to swing first this way, then that, revealing our prejudices and

The final revelations are the high point, and yet a sense of anti-climax quickly follows. The truth - that Georgie never was Miss America, nor did she have a brilliant career to give up, but was always a koyal and faithful wife – is far less interesting than Frank's fiction. The play turns out not to be an unexpectedly relevant examination of sexual politics and the realm of work, but merely a portrait of a good woman in a destructive relationship. The transformation from mediocre show to capital-T Theatre only momentarily takes place.

To 9 Dec. Booking: 0181-858 7755





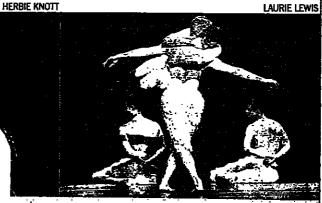
MOTHER COURAGE

THE EXHIBITION



C DAVID HOCKNEY

DAVID BOWIE / MORRISSEY



THE BALLET Swan lake

overview critical view EXCELLENT

KEY

GOOD

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Diana Rigg returns to the National in David Hare's new version of Brecht's classic play, with a new score by Jonathan Dove, in a production by lonathan Kent.

Robert Hanks was impressed. "Highly polished and bursting with intelligence." The translation finds more than the usual amount of humour in the play, and so does Rigg," approved the Times. "I never thought I'd be moved by Bertolt Brecht. This superb production proved me wrong," cheered the Daily Telegraph: But "Brecht needs better advocacy than is shown here," said the Financial Times.

In the Ofivier Theatre repertoire, National Theatre, London SE1 (0171-928 2252)

A major retrospective of Hockney's works on paper, from student exercises to opera designs via sketches and pen-and-ink portraits, which sets out to prove that drawing is the foundation of all art.

DAVID HOCKNEY DRAWINGS

Tom Lubbock said of the pen-and-ink portraits: "If there's a case for drawing here, these must be the leading exhibits." "The most brilliant and versatile draughtsman of his generation," pronounced the Times. "A highly gifted draughtsman with a charming and individual sense of colour", agreed the Daily Telegraph, "Not in the mainstream of modern art", sniffed the Independent on Sunday.

"Morrissey gave his most startling performance in years": Bowie was "a treat", raved Ryan Gilbey. "A courageous show, which found Bowie turning his industry," but Morrissey "fell as flat as a pancake

back on a comfortable life in the rock 'n' roll heritage said the Times. "Morrissey grappied with an audience who hadn't come to hear him. Bowie has mislaid the art of communication," thought the Evening Standard. The tour reaches Birmingham on Monday, with

further dates in Exeter, Glasgow, Sheffield and

David Bowie, tamously seen (and heard) "Dancin' in the Street" with Mick Jagger, takes on the younger

generation in the company of Morrissey, the man who made depression fashionable.

A radical new version choreographed by Matthew Bourne for Adventures in Motion Pictures with Scott Ambler, plus Adam Cooper and Fiona Chadwick from the Royal Ballet.

Sophie Constanti cheered: "Never less than superbly performed." "The most fabulous sight on the London stage," swooned the Daily Telegraph. "Striking imagery and some of the best performances you will ever see on a ballet stage..." a great hit," agreed the Times. "Preferable to many of the lumpen activities offered by companies who. foist ineptitudes on the public, commented the FT.

At Sadler's Wells, London EC1 (0171-278 8916), to 25 Nov. The production will tour in the spring.

on view

OUT VIEW

The Brecht production for

Brecht, Think Coronation Street gone epic. A supreme

people who think they hate

At the Royal Academy, London W1 (0171-439 7438), to 28 Jan.

Manchester.

Should you miss it, you can always buy the new albums by



Overturns classical expectations with a male corps de ballet. The lighting by Rick Fisher plays no small part in the ng's success.



JB SONGS ON RADIO3.

TWO HANDFULS LONG, SIR FEATURES THE LYRICS OF PURCELL'S BAWDY BAR ROOM SONGS. RECORDED LIVE AT YE OLDE MITRE, CHANCERY LANE. TONIGHT AT 9.20PM.

The portraits, particularly

to a remarkable visual

those of his mother, amount

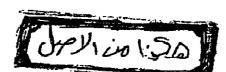














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A funny man, that Peter Sellars

'Magic Flute' on a freeway, 'Figaro' in Trump Tower, 'Orlando' in Cape Canaveral: Peter Sellars has earned his reputation as the director opera critics love to hate. Mark Pappenheim watched him at work

it exists now. But let's just see how it goes. I really am, you know, like Mr Flexible. If at any time you're unhappy, you just have to say, 'Peter, that's a stupid idea' or 'This is not working, let's do something else. But try just not to make me actually cry. It's always embarrassing to see the stage di-rector led from the room in tears."

who spend most of their first rehearsal discussing American politics, end up by inviting everyone to stay behind afterwards - "and, if you've got time, we might watch a little TV" (New York City Ballet dancing Balanchine, to be precise) - and break off midway to reassure the cast about the reviews. You're all prepared for the reviews, right? I mean, this'll just be so attacked, you know." But then, there aren't many opera directors like Peter Sellars.

Sellars enjoys a particularly high (or should that be low?) critical profile here, given that he has only ever done two original stagings in this country, both for Glyndebourne. The first, the 1987 world premiere of Nigel Osborne's The Electrification of the Soviet Union, hit the headlines when the baritone walked out over its explicit sexual language and on-stage nudity (well, he did have his Radio 2 audience to think of); the second, a Mozart bicentenary year Magic Flute - dialogue-free and set on and under a Los Angeles freeway - provoked the first recorded outburst of booing at the Festival and the resignation of its

artistic director, Sir Peter Hall. Small wonder that Sellars - with his famously spiky hair and diminutive-ly elfin wunderkind looks (though in my own life, I have to ask the quesnow, at 38, the hair is neither so spiky nor (de *wunder* so much of a *kina*) is the director the critics most love to hate. They particularly love the way he packages his productions so they can wrap them neatly up in some dis-missively catch-all cliché and forget them. Just as his Glyndebourne Mozart was filed away as the "Flute on a Freeway', so his televised Mozart / Da Ponte trilogy from Pepsico Summerfare went down in shorthand as "Figaro in Trump Tower". "Don Giovanni in Spanish Harlem" and "Cost in Despina's Diner". Why, he's even given the world a Handel Orlando, "in Cape Canaveral", with the hero in a space-suit. Enough said!

But his new staging of Hindemith's Mathis der Maler, which opened on Thursday to mark the exact centenary of the composer's birth, offers no such easy equation of time and place, least of all the "proper" period setting - a sort of Mastersingers-ish 16thcentury Germany, one supposes - that some might expect for the work's first

ever staging by a British company.

If asked, Sellars might well explain, as he did to his cast on that first day of rehearsals six weeks back, that the massive architectural set of steel struts and gold-tinted plexiglass - the buckled skeleton of a once tall sky-

o, hi there, everybody. I'd just like to talk you all scraper brought crashing down to course: Muthis, and all the composerath with a bung - stands for "the er's other music too, was soon banned." through the production as collapse of capitalism" (or how, after a few false starts, his designer George Tsypin delivered the final shell-shocked model just four days before the Oklahoma City bombing).

He'll talk a lot too about politics: how US Congress has just voted to cut all state funding of the arts from 1996 ("so the message is sent: if you're an ays embarrassing to see the stage diactor led from the room in tears."

There can't be many opera directors

(so the message is seen in you better have a day job"); how congress has also just passed a law ("at one in the morning") making it illegal for non-profit organisations - ic social workers and the arts - to engage in political activity ("whereas if you're for profit - a major defence contractor, say - no problem!"); above all, how the voters of California have just passed Proposition 187, which denies healthcare, emergency medical treatment and basic education to the children of illegal immigrants. "It's just like 1933 - except that, when the Nazis passed their law against the overcrowding of schools, it applied only to secondary and university level, because even Nazis believed that every human being deserves an elementary education. So the voters of California have gone one step further."

It's just such talk, one suspects, that upsets British critics (though, as Sellars says, apologising for going on about America so much, "As you know, any virus that gets hatched there gets washed over here and within three years becomes your social policy"). But how can any opera, written in 1933, and with an inflammatory book burning scene, not be political? How can any director not point the parallels?
"All my life," Sellars tells his cast,

"I grew up with the question: why were tion: why are the American people ulent? As ardsts, we occupy one o the last public spaces, we need to stand up in front of everyone and say: Excuse me, what's going on here? We can't not notice it's happening, so how are the selfsame questions Hindemith puts into the mouth of his artist hero (based upon the historical Matthias Grünewald, master of the Isenheim Altarpiece) in the opera's first lyrical outpouring: "Have you fulfilled the task God gave you? Is art enough?"questions that Hindemith was forced to ask himself following Hitler's seizure of power in 1933.

In effect, says Sellars, Hindemith wrote Mathis as a personal letter to Hitler, and, like Pasternak's similarly motivated missive to Stalin in Dr Zhivago, it involved the composer in an equally fundamental change of idiom. "Like Stalin could never have made it through one stanza of early Pasternak, so he had to stop and write another way. I find it terribly moving that Hindemith, this avant-garde composer, had to write what is really the next Wagner opera - because Mr Hitler was able to hear Wagner, and Hindemith just had to ask himself:

what can I do to get into those ears?"

The message never got through, of

as the work of a "cultural bolshevik", and in 1938 Hindemith himself went into exile, the only non-Jewish German composer to do so.

Mathis allows us to cavesdrop on the soul-searching behind his final decision. Not so much a work of autobiography as of auto-analysis, it functions on many levels: political, personal, artistic, emotional and hovering above all, as indistinct yet omnipresent as the shadowy reels of Super-8 footage Sellars has playing across his shattered plexiglass surfaces - the spiritual "Its complexity is one of its most satisfying dimensions," the director enthuses. "And you can keep things just as complicated as they are."

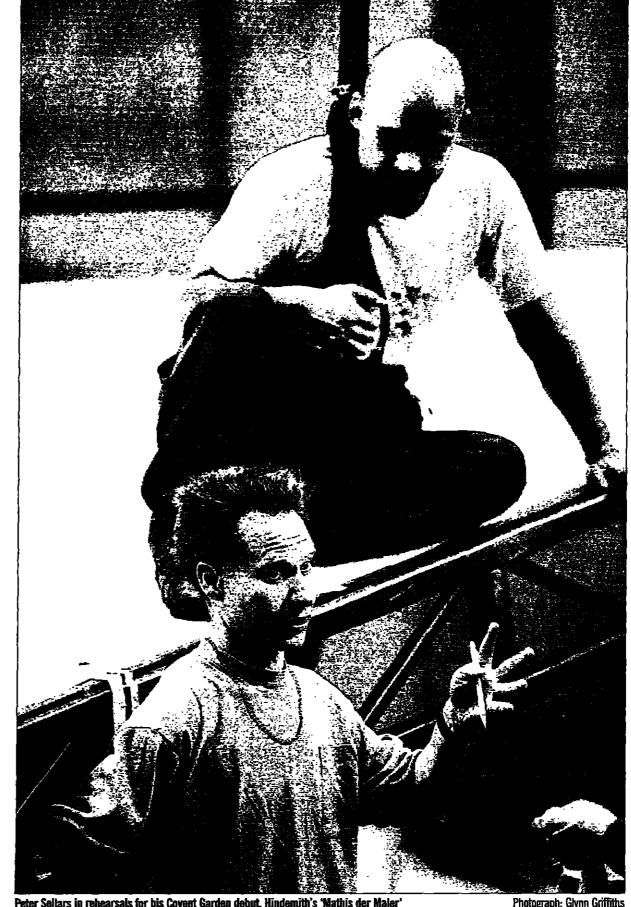
Quite what message Mathis was meant to send out is another matter, By setting his opera at the height of the Peasants' Revolt of 1524-5 and forcing his hero to reassess his role in the face of civil strife - creed against creed, class against class, Lutherans versus Catholics, the poor versus the rest -Hindemith certainly poses key questions about the artist's debt to society. Whether he also offers any answers, and what they are, seems less clear.

As Sellars observed on that opening day of rehearsals, "People seem to have come away from the recent New York staging with the idea that what he is finally saying is that art has no role to play in society - that the artist should just create art in his own living-room. I think that's exactly what he is not saying - but I just want to check." Six weeks on, it's hard to believe that anyone will leave his new staging under the same misapprehension, though the solution he finally offers is, on the face

of it, a surprisingly unpolitical one. But then, as he reminds us, "Grünewald painted his major work for a hosonly work is for an Aids clinic. And, though we know very little about him - we don't even know his real name - we do know that he just suddenly do we respond?" And, of course, these stopped painting. He seems to have spent the end of his life putting in sewers in small German towns."

Hindemith's hero, too, seems at the end to abandon his art. Some have seen his final Prospero-like farewell to the tools of his trade and the souvenirs of his life as a resigned acceptance of failure, a fateful surrender to imminent death. But listen to the music, not just the text; keep your eye on that ribbon as it passes from Mathis - first to Regina, daughter of the Revolution, then to Ursula, handmaid of the Reformation; follow those instrumental lines in the finale (horn and bassoon for Mathis, oboe then flute for the dying Regina, clarinet for Ursula), and, as Sellars shows, it is possible to put a more optimistic spin on the opera's close. "After all the horrors of war, the mass graves, it's like; we've been through that. Now, what would it be like to really try and live?"

Performances: 20, 22, 28 Nov, 1, 6 Dec, 7pm Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2. Booking: 0171-304 4000



WE'RE AUCTIONING MR DARCY'S SHIRT. NOT FOR WOMEN IN NEED, FOR CHILDREN IN NEED.

Last seen at Pemberley in Derbyshire, Mr Darcy's shirt makes a surprise reappearance in the front car park at the BBC White City, 201 Wood Lane, London W12. It's just one of a bost of props and artefacts going under the hammer tomorrow morning in a celebrity auction in aid of the BBC Children In Need charity. The sale starts at I(lam and will close at 1pm. If you can't get there, but want a last look at the shirt you longed to undo, the auction will be live on BBCl's The 11th Hour at 11 o'clock on Sunday morning.



Tina Turner: a big star, a very big star The Hyde Park Hotel is - of nation with a James Bond bled throng. "Ash. How did Care Bear Bunch. I turn to you enjoy working in 2 Bond the radio woman. You really should ask a "Great" says Tina.

"although my favourite Bond

is Sean Connery, so it would have been wonderful to work

"Um." replies Tina, "Sean

"I'm always too nervous to

ask a question in these

situations," admits a young lady to me from BBC Net-

work Radio. "It's nerve-

wracking, with all those

people watching."
"Ob," I say, "I'm sure it'll

"And their questions are so

with him."

Bond be?"

Соппету.

Bond?

course - that most reticent and enigmatic of sweater. hushed luxury hotels. Very, very famous people stay here for that specific reason: Madonna, Pavarotti, etc. We know this because every time a very, very famous person checks in, the hotel sends out a press release to everyone from Tatler to Shoe and Leather News announcing (in a bushed and reticent manner), that a very, very famous person has chosen the Hyde Park Hotel because it is renowned for its hushed

reticence. Today, the big star is Tina Turner - a woman not famed for silent reserve, it is true (the press release announcing her forthcoming tour dates begins with the rather exciting promise: "See this woman live and believe that Titans still walk the earth"). Today, the Titan will walk the ballroom, at least, to a stage. "Ooh," gasps the assemwhere she will pose for the

gun and a Lycra jogging

The room is packed with frenzied stringers, eagerly practising their Big Question: "How do you manage to keep so fit?"; "Are you delighted with your continuing appeal and how do you account for it?"; "You look delightful, as ever. How?" And so on. All these questions will be asked soon in the press conference, but first we are shown a compilation of Great Tina Moments - from the incontrovertibly fabulous "River Deep, Mountain High" times, through "Nutbush City Limits" to that rather startling moment in the early Eighties when she stopped looking like a regular human being and started looking like Asian, the lion king of Namia. And now, a very glamorous joggercum-drag-queen (Shirley Bassey meets Steve Ovett) takes

banai," she continues. "It's true," I say. And it is: questions and answers are being volleyed around like a

tennis match between the

question," I say. "It has to be better than all the others." "That's the awful thing," she says, "it is much better. I've got a really interesting

"Who's, your favourite "What is it?" I ask.
"Well," she replies, "Sean Connery," replies everyone is just asking her "And who would your

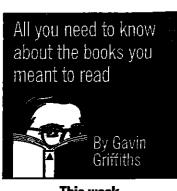
about her looks, and her health and everything, but I want to really get to the nitty-gritty."
"Mmm?" I ask.

"I want to ask ber if she feels that her artistic integrity is compromised by her commercial appeal." "Ooh," Í say.

"I'm too shy." In the end, however, it's all OK: someone else asks exactly the same question. "Good question," says

"But I can't," she says.

Tina Turner. "Damn," says my friend. "Damp,"



This week: Dostoyevsky's **Crime and Punishment**

Plot: Serialised alongside War and Peace in the Russian Herald, this tragic religious novel is reminiscent of Sophocles's *Oedipus* because the murderer becomes his own detective.

In St Petersburg, the impoverished student Raskolnikov trudges through the grimy streets "with a heart exacerbated by theories". He imagines himself a Napoleon, beyond moral

He visits an old woman moneylender and meets the drunken pitiful Marmeladov whose angelic daughter, Sonia, has sold herself into prostitution.

To escape his misery and poverty, Raskolnikov randomly murders the moneylender with a hatchet. Her sister returns unexpectedly and is greeted with the same treatment.

Raskolnikov is then pursued by his conscience and the magistrate Porfiry. Our anti-hero returns to the scene of his crime and his soul begins to awaken. Porfiry, certain of his guilt, waits for him to confess.

Sonia, acting as intercessor, shows Raskolnikov the path of penitence and redemption. She follows him as he goes to the police to own up and then on to Siberia where he is sent to pay for his sin. The novel closes uncertainly with Raskolnikov hoping tor "new life".

Theme: Raskolnikov comes to the painful discovery of his own con-science and of God's mercy; no matter how psychologically perverse, the individual is always capable of redemption. The book also seeks to show that in a predominantly evilseeming world, goodness endures and triumphs: Christian belief is a liv-ing force of purification.

Style: Fantastic realism. Dostoyevsky defamiliarises everyday surroundings, laying on his frenetic sentences like thick oil paint to create threedimensional hallucinations.

What they thought of it then: Dostoyevsky always has a close band of intelligent supporters - although there were complaints (from Tolstoy, among others) that he was too keen to slither along in the muck and tended

What we think of it now: Its status as undisputed classic has tamed the book. Modern critics tend to sanitise Dostoyevsky's insights by sprinkling on a good dose of historical perspective and banging on about

The secrets of Ekaterinberg

Who killed the Tsar and his family? Richard Pipes argues that the final order came from Lenin himself

he fate of Russia's Imperial Family - not so much in life as in decline and death - has become a veritable industry. In the past several years, half a dozen books have appeared in English dealing with the last days of the Romanovs, there are even more of them in Russian. Not that much new evidence has come to light to illuminate this tragic tale. Most of the accounts reiterate the same information and add little to the report of N.A. Sokolov, the Russian jurist who in 1918-19 investigated the murder on the spot and in 1924 published a scrupulous summary of his findings.

The only major contributions to the history of the assassination of Nicholas II, his family and servants were made by Trotsky in 1925 and the Russian writer Edward Radzinskii in 1989. In his 1935 diary, Trotsky recalled asking Iakov Sverdlov in the summer of 1918 what had happened to the Imperial family. Sverdlov, Lenin's right-hand man, told him that they had all been shot and that the execution had been carried out on Lenin's personal orders. Radzinskii discovered and published the recollections of Iakov Yurovsky, the Chekist who headed the execution squad and who personally killed the ex-tsar.

The grisly story is known virtually to the smallest detail: Nicholas, his wife and five children, along with the family doctor and three servants, were executed in gangster fashion on the night of July 16-17 and their remains, partly destroyed by fire and sulphuric acid, buried in a secret grave (which has since been located). Yet so morbid is the fascination of the public with the assassination of prominent historic figures that there exists an insatiable market for books which retell the story and raise questions about the established version. Some people doubt of exchanges between Moscow and the whether Lenin actually gave the order for the massacre or whether it was not more plausibly carried out on the initiative of the Soviet of Ekaterinburg, re it occurred Oth believe that the only person killed was Nicholas and that the remaining members of the family were spared, as the the actions of their escort. Yakovlev official Bolshevik communiqué of the Miachin, are somewhat clearer in the

Romanovs have the benefit of previous in communications with the Kremlin as scholarship as well as unrestricted "the baggage") still remains obscure.



The Fall of the Romanovs by Mark D. Steinberg and Vladimir M. Khrustalev, Yale, £18.50

access to Soviet archives. The heart of their book consists of 160 documents, most of them from the State Archive of the Russian Federation. They cover the period from February 1917, when the monarchy collapsed, until July 1918. Each batch of documents is preceded by extensive commentaries designed to rovide their historical setting.

Do they tell us much that is new? Not really. The bulk of the documents in this collection has been published previously. The new evidence consists mainly government agent charged with escorting the Romanovs from Tobolsk, their original place of confinement. They prove conclusively that the Imperial brought not to Moscow, as previously believed, but to Ekaterinburg. Some of context of these documents but his han-The authors of The Fall of the dling of the Imperial family (referred to

It is regrettable that the authors chose not to indicate previous publications of their documents. Thus the reader is not informed that the extensive excerpts of the diaries of Empress Alexandra which they publish in full were first made public by the American journalist, Isaac Don Levine, in the Chicago Daily News 75 years ago. Nor is credit given to Eduard Radzinskii for discovering and publishing Yurovsky's recollections, which are here reproduced once again. The same holds true of the spurious letters sent to the imperial family in their prison by an alleged monarchist prepared to abduct them, but in fact written by the local Cheka. Such omissions create the wrong impression that these and many other documents in the volume are made public for the first time.

The narrative, especially that part credited to Professor Steinberg, is crisply written and lucid but it does not reveal profound knowledge of the era. Suffice it to say that it incorrectly attributes to General Kornilov, whose for the Holocaust.

quarrel with Kerensky in August 1917 fatally weakened the Provisional Government, the demand "that all civil and military authority be placed in his hands". In reality, this was a proposal made to Kerensky by a bumbling meddler, V. Lvov, who pretended to be an emissary from Kornilov. The descriptions of the February Revolution and October coup follow rather conventional class war scenarios, devoting little attention to the political conflicts.

The most unconvincing aspect of the narrative is the way in which it raises doubts about Lenin's role in the murder of the Imperial family. Indeed, no written order from Lenin mandating the execution of the ex-tsar has been found (although a low-level Soviet functionary claimed to have carried whom Soviet Russia was about to open such an order to the telegraph office). But this no more proves his uninvolvement than the absence of a written instruction from Hitler to kill all the Jews, on which Nazi apologists rely, absolves him of ultimate responsibility

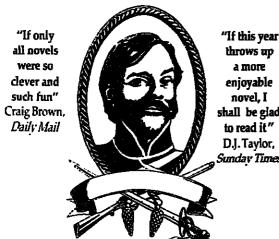
Lenin was exceedingly careful not to associate his name with acts of Com-munist terror. He preferred to attribute them to others, usually either government officials or local soviets, partly to absolve himself from blame, partly to remove the onus for these harbarities from the Party. Anyone familiar with the way the Soviet regime functioned during his lifetime realizes that nothing of importance was done in Soviet Russia without Lenin's personal approval. He would one day order 100 peasants in the province of Penza be hanged publicly to frighten others into surrendering their grain. At another time, he would command that all the Cossacks of a town in the Urals be "exterminated" if they set fire to the oil wells. (Both these instructions were issued in secret and made available only recently). It is simply inconceivable, even if we did not have Trotsky's testimony to this effect, that the Ekaterinburg soviet would on its own initiative undertake an act that was bound to have the most ominous domestic and international repercussions. For the fate of the Empress and her daughters was fraught with diplomatic dangers since Berlin, on which the Bolsheviks then heavily depended both militarily and financially, regarded them as German nationals. impute even tentatively the decision to local authorities is particularly eccentric given that we have Yurovsky's own word (which the authors cite) that Ekaterinburg received on July 16 an order from Perm, the administrative centre of

the Urals, "to exterminate the R-ovs". Lenin more than once attributed to local soviet authorities actions which he thought politically dangerous. He resorted to a strikingly similar stratagem in ordering the execution in Irkutsk in February 1920 of Admiral Kolchak whom he wanted out of the way but feared formally condemning to death because the White leader had influential sympathizers in Britain with commercial negotiations.

Perhaps the time has come to proclaim a moratorium on this subject until - if ever - genuinely new sources come to light.

Richard Pipes is Baird Professor of History at Harvard

If only Flashman had got on with his dinner, and ignored the handkerchief dropped by a flirtatious hussy in a Calcutta hotel ... American history would have been different, and a disastrous Civil War might have been avoided ...



enjoyable novel, I shall be glad to read it" D.J. Taylor, Sunday Times

The arch-rotter of the Victorian age returns in

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Anatomy of a giant

Modern Russian politics defeats facile explanation. By Godfrey Hodgson

tions, for parliament in December and presumably for the presidency next year, and as Boris Yeltsin, the West's chosen saviour, prepares to leave the stage, this clear-eyed account, written out of personal experience and original thought, is very timely.

Bruce Clark's view is what most Western observers would regard as pessimistic. He predicts the failure of the liberal Little Russia which has been the West's preferred option. But then he thinks that most western analysis has largely missed the point of what is happening in Russia: he believes that Russia is recovering economically and will soon be making itself

felt diplomatically. Whether or not you agree with all his conclusions, this account is to most journalistic commentary on Russian politics what a long, careful analysis is to a 30-second piece to camera on CNN. where all that locates you in Russia is the silhouette of St Basil's cathedral.

This rare attempt to understand Russia in its own terms starts with a great advantage over those who try to understand it only in ours. The Orthodox church is a good example of this. At first, westerners saw it as a heroic band of persecuted martyrs. Then, when the full extent of the church leaders' collaboration with the KGB became known, they were shocked. Clark remote from that of the West

s Russia faces two elec- An Empire's New Clothes: The End of Russia's Liberal Regime Vintage, £7.99

> points out that, to the Orthodox mind, co-operation with the temporal power was always seen as necessary to safeguard the spiritual dimension of life under autocracy. He begins with an illuminating examination of the furious arguments over the

> very nature of Russia among intellectuals. He explains the influence, for example, of Lev Gumilyov's theory of Russia as a "super-ethnos", compounded of Slav and Turkish civilisations. To Western readers, that sounds like crazy geopolitical nonsense; yet Gumilyov is not some wild. Dostoyevskyan holy fool, but the historian son of that supreme heroing of western liberals, Anna Akhmatova.

examines the strange, shifting alliances, the diametric alternations of ideas in the Russian political class: "Villains have metamorphosed into heroes, destitutes into multimillionaires. and reformers into archconservatives and back again. The post-Soviet world, intellectual as well as political, is, he says, far more

than we are prone to believe. Yet he does not underestimate the sophistication of the new Russian politics: think of chess and the hydrogen bomb, he observes in passing. He is led to some surpris-

ing, even sensational conclusions. The war in Chechnya was not an aberration, he says, but, an essential part of a rational, if ruthless, strategy for controlling exports from the new Caspian oilfields. He takes Vladimir Zhirinovsky seriously, interpreting his imperialist ravings as the cover for a cool strategy of neutralising those countries -Turkey, Afghanistan and Iran which share divided populations (Kurds, Tajiks and Azeris respectively) with the former Soviet Union. Indeed, he suspects a tacit alliance between Yeltsin and Zhirinovsky, the anti-Semite who, Clark shows, probably had a Jewish father: a perfect illustrution of how things in the new Russian politics are never quite what they seem. He suspects Yeltsin and

his allies of manipulating the media image of his victory over the 1993 coup, and accuses them of stagemanaging the killings at the Ostankino television centre. His central contention, and it is on the whole convincing. is that the West in general, and the United States in particular, has committed a his-

toric mistake by patronising

and underestimating this con-

Somme culture

Patriotism, poppies and free love. Mark Bostridge on Great War fiction

t the funeral, in 1974, of the First World War poet and memoirist Edmund Blunden, a wreath of Flanders poppies was scattered on his coffin in symbolic recognition of the way in which the war had moulded his writing and scarred his life. The image of those fluttering poppies kept coming to my mind as I read Hugh Cecil's new book. Selecting a dozen writers, Cecil has attempted to show the very different ways in which they made use of their war

experiences in their fiction. Over the past few years, we have ourselves been witnessing a minor resurgence of interest in novels about the First World War, with the success of Sebastian Faulks's bestselling Birdsong and Pat Barker's acclaimed trilogy, and so it is both timely and useful to be reminded of the original, much larger market for war books which opened in 1928, 10 years after the Armistice, and which finally petered out in the early Thirties, when the diminishing hopes of lasting peace replaced it with a new, more urgent phase of war literature.

It is also a welcome corrective to the traditional picture to learn that the war books of the Twenties and Thirties did not represent a one-note literature of disillusionment. Novels which celebrated patriotism and pre-war values of idealism and hope continued to be published and, moreover, to reach a wide and receptive readership. The Flower of Battle: **British Fiction Writers of** the First World War by Hugh Cecil Secker, £25

With the exception of Richard Aldington, and possibly of Herbert Read, none of Cecil's chosen novelists will be familiar to modern readers. though many of them were bestselling authors in their day. Cecil has unearthed some fascinating personal stories. There is a pattern of tragic inevitability in the chapter on A.D. Gristwood, author of The Somme, who never emerged from the shadow of the war and who finally took his own life. There is also the delightfully unpredictable tale of Robert Keable, a chaplain on the Western Front who abandoned Christianity after the war for a life of free love on a Tahitian island.

And yet one's overriding feeling is that most of the novels discussed in this book are second- or even thirdrate, mere historical curiosi-ties, and that Cecil's determination to revive them for posterity is almost like an act of piety. It's also difficult not to conclude that the best of British writing arising from the war lies in poetry and auto-

the strong fictional element in the memoirs of Sassoon and Graves). Britain didn't produce a war novelist of the stature of Remarque, and it is perhaps regrettable that what is without doubt the greatest British novel of the war, Frederic Manning's The Middle Parts of Fortune, receives only a passing mention.

Furthermore, Cecil's biographical approach seems a misguided one. Collective biography is notoriously difficult, and whatever singularity these novels possess seems to go missing in a great swamp of biographical information. The relationship between the authors' experience and their writing also gets lost. The case of R.H. Mottram is particularly telling in this respect. In spite of being filmed in 1930, and televised in the Sixties, Mottram's Spanish Farm Trilogy has never won the popularity it deserves. Cecil's chapter on Mottram is scrupulously researched but fails to explain why Mottram avoided using his direct expe-rience of the fighting in his work, nor why it is love and not war that is such a strong component of his novels.

There is something genwhich Cecil has tried to establish a link with the Great War generation before their stories become irretrievable. But what we need now is a more thematic, less idiosyncratic, study of the biography (while recognising erary imagination. influence of the war on the lit-

Philip Hoare's intimate life of Noel Coward is out this week. Here, he describes the joys and frustrations of separating the man from the legend

t is a presumptious matter to announce one's intention to write the definitive biography of a legend. Had I known, five years ago, that the road ahead was strewn with quite as many eggshells. I might have thought twice about the prospect of producing a life of Noel Coward. My first obstacle was a substantial

one, in the shape of Sheridan Morley, author of the first serious biography of Coward, published in 1969, four years before Coward died. What would he make of an upstart like me? To my relief, he not only didn't mind, he was positively encouraging. But with the rest of the theatrical fraternity, the stock reaction to my request for interviews was depressing. "Hasn't he been done enough already?" - rather as though Noel were a sausage on the barbecue. It was difficult to argue my case without bringing up the great bugbear of modern biography: sex. When Morley wrote his book, he had been asked by Coward not to mention his homosexuality for fear of offending the blue-rinsed ladies of East Grinstead. But Noel added, "After my death, it's another matter". I took this as my cue. Yes, I was going to talk about sex - how else could you discuss a homosexual playwright's work, especially one still living in the shadow of Wilde? But no, it wasn't going to be a catalogue of one-night stands as extensive as that might be, in

It was also difficult to contend that no one had written comprehensively about Coward, without appearing to disrespect Morley's work or Cole Les-ley's book. The latter - Coward's manservant and secretary - had taken up the challenge after the gory fate of the would-be authorised biographer, James Pope-Hennessey, who had announced the sizeable advance he had received to the Evening Standard "Londoner's Diary", only to be found soon after strangled by one of the "rough trade" he was wont to pick up. When the Standard breezily printed the amount of my own advance, I made sure the chain was on the door.

Things didn't seem to be going so well. I heard that a writer called Clive Fisher was about to publish his own account of Coward's life. I considered throwing it all in. But an appalling sense of schadenfreude overcame me when I learned that Coward's estate had taken against Fisher and were refusing him access to or permission to quote from Coward's unpublished work. They didn't like Fisher's emphasis on Noel's homosexuality, conversely, I would have to deal yet more delicately with the subject. I approached Joan Hirst, keeper of Noel's flame in this country (his heir, Graham Payn, lives in Chalet Coward in Switzerland). Over tea, I was vetted. She'd read my biography of the aesthete Stephen Tennant, and approved.

Soon I was being summoned to the deluxe environs of Montreux, and to be met at the station by Mr Payn. He was much too nice, and drove an exceedingly modern electric blue dalous, shocking even. Intimate details



customised sports car. I warmed to him immediately. That night, after dinner, we talked until the small hours. There was no question, no matter how personal, which he would not answer. "Mum's Suitcase" - Violet Coward's battered attaché case stuffed with letters and much unpublished material was pulled down from a top shelf.

Thereafter the doors of Belgravia and Mayfair opened as if by magic. Sir John Gielgud returned my calls; Sir Dirk Bogarde wrote three-page letters. Requests to see manuscripts which had never seen the limelight were met with assent. I also met some enemies, people whom Coward had annoyed, or apparently treated badly. I was faced with a new difficulty: what to include. Certain facts would prove to be scan-

of sexual encounters do not translate easily into even-handed prose. The American composer, Ned Rorem, gave me an, er, blow-by-blow account of his affair with Coward (Rorem confessed that the Master wasn't very G.I.B.). Research disinterred other tales: it became clear that Noel's first serious relationship was with a painter old enough to be his father; Noel had been 14. This artist, I discovered, had very definite links with the Uranians, a paedophiliac group of the 1890s. Such prickly material

required kid-glove treatment. One major bonus for the biographer of an inveterate traveller is the excuse to follow in his footsteps, Jamaica? I went of my own accord. I also worked up a reason to tour pre-election South Africa, getting perilously lost and Driving Miss Daisy), she tasted it, sayinterviewing an elderly Wimbledon ing, "If I don't die, you'll be OK". I published by Sinclair-Stevenson at £25

champion in Cape Town whose husband was rumoured to have been Coward's boyfriend, America provided plenty of leads. One afternoon I returned to the Gramercy Park Hotel in downtown Manhattan and asked if there were any messages. The young chap on the desk - who looked like an American footballer - answered in abject admiration, "Katharine Hep-

burn called for you". I tried to appear nonchalant, just as I did the next day when I arrived at Miss Hepburn's townhouse on the Upper East Side. I was shown into the kitchen, where her black chauffeur was eating breakfast. Upstairs, her feet up on a sofa, was K.H. Over iced water and in her characteristic vibrato, she talked Noel. How frustrating it was that he would never play tennis when she visited him in Jamaica, preferring to lie around the pool, usually naked. How Noel's life in the country was the same as Noel's in the town, "only a different temperature". And a veiled criticism unusual, for this famously reserved woman - of Coward's lover and manager, Jack Wilson: he was "not of his calibre". (In fact Wilson had exploited and embezzled money from his boyfriend and almost managed to get him locked up for currency irregularities during the Second World War). Then Miss Hepburn insisted I eat. Taking a tin of crab meat from a Fifties fridge (her kitchen was straight out of

passed on this early lunch (it was 11am), and left. What a woman

It was in Jamaica that Coward seemed closest. Here, I gleaned information on his expatriate life. His old friend Morris Cargill told me how annoyed Noel was when Larry Olivier came to stay and insisted on smoking dope. I heard about the sticky ménages of the Flemings (Ian with Blanche Blackwell; Ann with Hugh Gaitskell), which so fascinated Noel that he wrote an (unpublished) play about them, Volcano. At Coward's house, Firefly, I sneakily tried on his Hawaiian shirts, and felt a genuine frisson when I found the black-tiled shower room where the Master collapsed and died, on 26 March 1973. Sitting on Noel's tombstone on the brow of Firefly Hill, I watched a tropical storm gather in the bay and sweep up, sending us running for cover. I hoped it wasn't some sort

Back in England, there was one surprise yet to come. Until then, I had found no first-hand evidence of Coward's wartime espionage work. The text had already been edited and was ready for proofing when I was told of certain documents which I shouldn't have seen but did, and which required the rewriting of an entire chapter. It was a suitably dramatic note on which to end. Even to the last, Noel was determined to deliver a final twist to the plot.

'Noel Coward: A Biography' by Philip Hoare is

Throwing the world out of whack

Robert Winder sifts through the posthumous fragments of the great Italian fabulist, Italo Calvino

talo Calvino's bottom drawer is turning out to be one of the roomiest in modern literature. The sunny Italian maestro has been dead for 10 years now, but it seems to have had no effect on his publication schedule. When people say of writers that death could be a smart career move, they usually mean that it will give their reputation a twist of gravitas. But in Calvino's case it seems to have been a purely notional event. This collection of stories - some of which have previously appeared in Italian newspapers and magazines, some of which were rejected manuscripts - is the fourth volume to have been published since his death.

It is by no means his best work; it might even be his least impressive. Naturally, it is full of neat ideas and pleasant narrative manners. If it were by an unknown writer, we would be busily applauding the arrival of a singular and impressive new voice. But in the context of his already dazzling portfolio of mod-ern classics, it can't helping looking like a sketchbook full of rough drafts – a memento for fans. Bottom-drawer publications often address a biographical interest more than a literary one - they catch great writers in their unguarded moments. In this sense, the volume shows mainly that Calvino was a canny judge of his own efforts, and knew what to leave on the back burner.

Not that it is remotely dull or uninteresting: it is just that the stories here, stray shots from a man who wrote every day of his adult life, are quiet versions of preoccupations indulged more thoroughly elsewhere. There are, for instance, a couple of stories which might easily have featured in Invisible Cities, Calvino's beautiful sequence of ruminations on the nature of civic life. Here, he proposes a town where everyone is a thief. It is a perfectly egalitarian society: the world has fallen, irrevocably, from every night, people go and empty some-

Numbers in the Dark trans. Tim Parks

one else's house. There are exactly the right number of houses to go round, so no one returns home empty-handed. What ruins this happy paradise is the arrival of one honest man, who stays in

and reads novels when he should be breaking and entering. His honesty means that one thief is forced to go back to his burgled house empty-handed. In a stroke, he creates poverty. Others begin to imitate his example, and so the divisions between rich and poor are created. Calvino was a member of the Communist Party when he wrote this, and it is a very beguiling version of the maxim that all property is theft. All possessions, in this cheerfully imagined fairyland, are illgotten. The rich are merely those who selfishly lock the door on their own possessions.

In his greater books Calvino would make much of this sense of asymmetry, this idea that one minuscule shift could throw everything out of whack. Here, in the title story, an eager accountant worries away at an error in the books of a vast and ancient building company. In the end, he finds a tiny slip-up of a few hundred lire in a 17th-century ledger. It fills him with panic. This fractional mistake, he believes, has thrown everything out of kilter. The mistake has entered the system, like a lie, and been amplified by hundreds of years of compound interest. "The whole world," he cries, "is distorted by this mistake." As so often in Calvino.

There are many other nice ideas in this collection. There's a dizzy monologue by a man present at the birth of the universe, who remembers it all. There's a sweet memoir of Casanova in which he reflects on the complexity of his loves. And there is a nice interview with Neanderthal Man, who ruins the journalist's insistence that he is talking to the world's first man by saying the words: "My dad". And there's a political satire called "Beheading the Heads," in which the political leaders are routinely executed at the end of their term of office. Typically - this is Calvino, not Kafka - it emerges as a comedy: the politicians negotiate the arrangement down to the amputation of a finger here and there.

The whole book, indeed, is a catalogue

of bright ideas. But they rarely transcend their status as anecdotes. Even the style, normally the epitome of unruffled clarity, takes a few wrong turns, "To explode or to implode," Calvino writes at the beginning of a science fiction odyssey, "that is the question." This is a pretty heavy-handed marriage between science and lit-erature (for which the translator cannot remotely be blamed).

In his more developed work, Calvino would make art from the fusion of contrasting mentalities. Indeed, it is a tribute to the slippery and approachable nature of his genius that one of the stories here, a fiendish puzzle about computer processing and vocabulary, should have first been published in Playboy. It is nice to learn that it was intended for the avant-garde modemist magazine Oulipo. "I can't prevent the slow tentacles of my mind," Calvino writes, "advancing one hypothesis at a time. exploring labyrinths of consequence that magnetic memories would run through in a nanosecond," As Calvino's widow points out in her introduction, it was devised as "an example of ars combinatoria". I bet the Playboy readers thought it was fifthy.

Party on Parnassus

John Walsh discovers who's in and who's out at the literary gathering of the century

An attempt to reflect a century of literary taste," is how Peter Parker describes this 825-page | Iwentieth-Century Writers compilation of mini-biographies of 1,000 writers, from Lascelles Aber- ed. Peter Parker crombie to Louis Zukofsky. In fact the time-scale stretches impressively beyond a century: Thomas Hardy (b 1840) is allowed to be a 20th-century writer (though he stopped writing novels in 1898, his career as a poet was only starting) and Simon Armitage (b 1963) is deemed worthy to be included along-side him, despite having been published are included, but not historians, essayists or biographers (no Leavis, Schama or Lytton Strachey, therefore). Amer-ican writers figure largely, most of them drinking ferociously and dying young, but the Companion's grasp on colonial literature is less sure (no sign of Tim Winton for instance). Genre writers are included, but not children's authors (Agatha Christie, yes, Enid Blyton, no). Parker's introduction offers no guidelines about the criteria used to include or omit certain writers, so we can only guess why, say, Jay McInerney is included but not Bret Easton Ellis; why Will Self is in, but not Sebastian Paulks. One could, however, spend the rest of this review arguing about the guests at this "lively literary gathering"

(Parker's words). Students, and those looking for brisk work is important may feel a little shortchanged by the Companion. Beckett? "Much of the prose from the 1950s and 1960s is almost unreadable". Finnegans Wake? "A salmagundi of linguistic fragments and borrowings" (it's actually a salmagundi of puns and portmanteaux). Patrick Hamilton? His novels "are time" (would this be of the mid- occasionally through a human skull. urgent digression.

Fourth Estate, £25

Twenties, the mid-30s, the late-40s or the mid-50s, or all of them?). These tenis deemed worthy to be included alongside him, despite having been published since only 1989. Poets and dramatists tative, O-level judgements are the weakest part of the book; but perhaps you shouldn't be looking here for serious evaluations. Parker and his crew of contributors did their bit for Lit Crit in their Reader's Companion to the Twentieth-Century Novel. The current book is a far more ad hominem affair. It faithfully records where each writer

went to school, whether their parents were married or divorced, who brought them up, how they first got published, why and when they turned to drink, how this or that scandal broke, what was said about them by whom, what prizes they won, what marriages were made or broken, how successful or how unread they were or remain... But the structure is not, thank goodness, formulaic. Some entries gallop breathlessly through the facts, some languidly quote the judgements of the writer's peer group, some get obsessive and shrill about one detail, by no means necessarily a litersummings-up of why a writer or his ary one. Thus the entry for A.N. Wilson bangs on for a paragraph about his fogeyism and the "misconduct" for which he was sacked from the Speciator, before noting "He had also published 14 novels by the mid-1990s". We learn of the "decadent" poet Jeremy Reed's performances, where "holding aloft one gloved hand he recites his

There are those who think that his delivery does very little for his work...".

T-ld ry

a ui-og u-w vi-od alf io-ed Vir

This tone of educated bitchiness sounds constantly when dealing with women writers. Anita Brookner's entry (rather like her oeuvre) starts with sprightly formality, shades off into gloom and ends, tartly, "She is unmar-ried". Angela Carter's "personal man-ner", we learn, "had become very grand by the time of her death" (which is untrue). Jeanette Winterson "is perhaps unique in choosing one of her own nov-els as her Book of the Year in a newspaper round-up". Just as beguiling are the thousand or so sidelong details that enliven the entries. I was happy to learn that James Kirkup is a crowned ollave of the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids and that his recreation is given in Who's Who as "standing in shafts of moonlight" (formerly "standing in shafts of sunlight"). How nice to learn that Arthur Ransome, of Swallows and Amazons fame, married Trotsky's former secretary; that the novelist Justin Cartwright played polo for Oxford, that Forrest Reid dedicated his book The Garden God to Henry James, and James, upon noting the book's homosexual content, demanded the dedication be removed. How did I not know that Angus Wilson was at Bletchley?

The word "companion" can connote several things: the sidekick-for-life, the shadowy helpmeet who enjoys the sole meunière in restaurant reviews, the paid-up spinster who travels to Monte Carlo with the fur-draped dowager. Peter Parker's compilation of brief lives is far more amusing than any of these images might suggest. This "companion" is a gossipy, slightly rackety, age- and prize-obsessed androgyne of middle years, with a jealous streak and major monuments of the fiction of their poems in a curious sing-song manner, a decidedly camp habit of sudden,

Slave to Daddy

Keening wails and five-hour breakfasts: Christina Patterson on an addition to pater-familiar literature

Driving My Father by Susan Wicks, Faber, £9.99

Sharon Olds are among a crop of writ-profile books about dead and dying fathers. Usually described as "painfully honest", they herald some kind of a trend towards washing your post-Freudian com-plexities in public. The big question, how-ever, is what, if anything, can be added to the genre after Blake Morrison's wonderful, moving and funny memoir, And When Did You Last See Your Father?

Susan Wicks is uncowed by this. One of last year's New Generation poets, she has published two collections, Singing Underwater and Open Diagnosis. Slightly uneven, both reveal a startling and often with high imagination, a preoccupation with birth, sex and the cycle of life and a cool, unflinching gaze. It is this gaze - detached. precise, observant - that sets the tone of her memoir, an account that proves to be utterly without self-pity. It begins (and ends) with the news of her mother's death. the event she has feared and imagined all her life. Her father's response is "a strange sound, an odd kind of high wailing", a torrent of grief that becomes and remains a part of him. From this point on, he is identifiable by "the sound of his keening", a word which gives a weird dignity to his despair. And from this point on, Wicks is a slave to a father who is cataputed into old age, loneliness and dependency.

Her account seems at first to be a random collection of snippets and jottings. In fact, it is very carefully structured, a collage of visits to her father, bearing casseroles and clean clothes, memories of childhood, dreams, fantasies and refrains. All are recounted in the same dispassionate. clear prose, spare to the point of extreme economy. The result has a staccato and fragmented quality that feels appropriate for a subject which could, in other hands, have sunk into nostalgic sentimentality. With a poet's eye, she selects details, images and snatches of dialogue that build up a convincing picture of her father's character, his relationship with her

mother and their life together as a family. An interesting tension emerges between

ermaine Greer, Philip Roth and the child's hero-worship of a father who makes wonderful toys and is admired by all her friends and the adult's clear perception of a man dominated by his lifelong desire for attention. A further tension is added by fantasies and dreams. It is here that the stress, anxiety and sheer horror of it all surfaces. Wicks the loyal and loving daughter is endlessly patient, kind and solicitous, even though it takes her father "more than five hours ... to have his breakfast and get dressed". Faced with the sight of him "clinging to the banisters and wailing", his utter helplessness and vulnerability, she has dreams about fighting off dead limbs. She also has fantasies of escape, of being found by her father wearing her mother's huge, custom-made bra, even of suffocating him. These are recounted in the future tense and their added by fautasies and dreams. It is here recounted in the future tense and their true status - dream? reality? desire? - is not immediately clear. They add texture and uncertainty to the narrative, a kind of contained, poetic wildness.

Two central images emerge, symbols of love and ambivalence. The first is the driving mentioned in the title. Wicks's frequent car journeys to visit her father are among her happiest moments, taking her to the person she loves so much and also offering the fantasy of escape from that responsibility. They are simultaneously a symbol of enslavement and freedom, life-as-a-inverse symbol desired to the state of the state o journey, suspended animation and waiting for death. The second is the kite whose string is on the cover. Eric Wicks made beautiful kites for his daughter, kites she would fly proudly and then, to his horror, by accident, release. This memory is a wonderful, if rather literal, symbol of the bond between father and daughter and also of uncertainty, transience and letting go.

This book is, above all, a record of love and its capacity to surprise. It is a tribute to a man who was not particularly talented, bright or handsome, but who was made extraordinary by the love he gave and received. In spite of all the frustration, irritation and anxiety, there is no sense of unfinished business, tangled knots or Larkin's infamous dictum. No father could



Culture clash: a peasant woman and her daughter counting apples, oblivious of the couple in the car behind them. Like many of the photographs in Henri Cartier-Bresson's 'Mexican Notebooks' (Thames and Hudson, £18.95), this image explores the paradoxes of a culture in which birth and death, pagan and Christian, continuity and change

solemnity of an Aztec sculpture. She and her mother turn their back on the modern world, serenely self-absorbed and monumental, in contrast to the young woman glancing nervously out of the car. The ancient culture remains unmoved by the shock of the new. As Carlos Fuentes writes of Cartier-Bresson in his Introduction, 'he photographed Mexican eternity and he photographed it in an instant'.

A handful of ants

Helen Stevenson is touched by memories of mendacity

The Liars' Club by Mary Kart Picador, £14.99

The Liars' Club has a great title for a novel, but passes in the catalogue for a memoir. A memoir always sounds more like the article you kept your memories in than the memories themselves, one in which they invariably grow stale; some grim black box on grandmother's dressing table, full of old photographs and badges and a letter or two.

Mary Karr's account of her Texan childhood has nothing of the reliquary about it. If there is a shadow on some of her memories, it is a shadow of anguish, not of old age. If the picture is ever blurred, it is not through lapse of memory, but because the

image has been singed by fires. It opens with an undeciphered memory. Mary and her sister Lecia are seven and nine, alone in their house with the sheriff and the family doctor. Their house is in a town once judged as one of the ten ugliest places in America, "one of the blackest squares on the cancer map". Each member of the family is doing what characterises them best: mother is drunk, mad and missing; father is working the graveyard shift at the oil refinery, reliable enough to set your watch by, but reliably absent. Lecia pretends to sleep in the arms of the sheriff, faking calm in the face of catastrophe, and Mary is trying to pinch her awake. It is a recurring gesture, this pinching someone awake - "Is this really happening? Can this nightmare be real?" It takes a whole book for the writer, let alone the reader, to decipher the origins of this one nightmare

among many.

Despite Karr's honest-to-God assurances of veracity ("I shit you not," she keeps saying, "I shit you not"), the title is unnerving. Mary's father sometimes let her sit in on the sessions in the back room of Fischer's Bait Shop, where he would pay out the thin twine of his artful fabulations, mesmerising his listeners with recollections from his own childhood. During a lucid account of "How my daddy died. He hanged hisself", which even seven-year-old Mary recognises for "easily the biggest lie Daddy ever told", she drifts off into a memory of her dead grandmother, whose hand hung slack over the bedside, with little red ants running up and down the thoroughfares of her palm. "I've plumb forgot where I am, for an instant, which is how a good lie should take you. At the same time. I'm more where I was inside myself than before Daddy started talking, which is how lies can tell you the truth." Then she remarks, "The lie stayed built between him and the other men like a fence put up to keep them from knowing him better."

Any evocation of childhood that achieves a genuine Proustian quality, but with short sentences and more laughs, has to be read to be appreciated. When reviewers insist "I laughed, I cried" one is usually tempted to enquire sourly, "Yes? And when you came off the drugs?" But here it would not be untrue. Tales of blistering suffering and violence, often occasioned by Mary's mother's drinking, are laced with a laconic wit and a ferocious love which light up every page. The wit is never bit-ter, the love is not the pious love of the therapied-out adult, but the fierce loyalty of a child, that needy love which explains why children would rather suffer all manner of cruelties than be deprived of the essential presence

of the parent who inflicts them. If there is one aspect of The Liar's Club which keeps you flicking back nervously to the title, it is the language of its descriptions, which is at once too exact to be believable as recollection, and yet too powerful not to be true. This is a study of, and not in, mendacity, in which it is made quite clear that it is the lies of omission which cause the real damage, not the lies of invention. Mary's mother's lies of omission create a black hole in the family's past, which not even her father's joyful fictions, nor this breathtakingly shrewd and loving memoir, could ever be expected to repair.

Who's reading whom?

Paperbacks -

Reviewed by Emma Hagestadt and Christopher Hirst



Rupert Christiansen's Tales of the New Babylon', a portrait of Paris during the Second Empire, is published by Minerva

n the summer I picked up a copy of Memoirs of a Bengal Civilian by John Beames (Eland) in a hotel bookshop in Jaipur. It's an absolute gem. Beames, a District Officer in Bengal from 1858-1879, was the best kind of man produced by the British Empire: just. tolerant, kind and with complete integrity. His prose, the product of a good, ordinary classical Victorian education, is almost indistinguishable from the man - sober and sane and progressing from A to B to C in everything. including his loathing of Indian rent collectors (against whom he waged war) and the worst excesses of the British in India. He is terribly funny and wise and you end up really loving him. Anyone who thinks the Empire was a deplorable

time, should read his book.



Woody Allen on Woody Allen by Stig Bjorkman (Faber, £8.99)

Considering the fact that

their relationship atomised during the interviews for this film-by-film retrospective. Woody Allen is academically objective about Mia Farrow: "a good actress ... very photogenic, very beautiful on screen". Faced with an informed inquisitor, Allen is fascinating about his extensive oeuvre and cinema in general. But his irony has rusted - at one point he says. completely seriously: "I'm very generous."



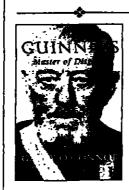
by Gavin Bell (Picador, £6.99)

In 1888, Robert Louis Stevenson bowed his head before "the romance of destiny" and set sail for the South Seas. One hundred years on, fellow Scot and romantic Gavin Bell goes in search of his own treasure island. An exhilarating read that finds Gavin Bell (and Stevenson) pounded by monster waves, shivering on "accursed" beaches and uneasily recalling a time "when the living are the



Age of Extremes 1914-1991 by Eric Hobsbawm (Abacus, £9.99)

Hobsbawm triumphantly negotiates the home stretch of a historical quartet which has explored modern times (from 1789) with consummate erudition. In this massive conclusion - an ideal desert island choice for scope and stimulation - he adopts a broadly thematic approach. More about ideas than personalities, the book explores the three great phases of our century: catastrophe. post-war boom and current



by Garry O'Connor (Sceptre, £6.99)

It always seems a little impolite for biographers of the still living to pontificate too seriously on the psychological make-up of their subjects. In this most recent biography, Alec Guinness is painted as a man obsessed by his illegitimate origins, hungry for acceptance and uneasy with the "feminine within". But if you can skip the amateur psychoanalysis, there are some nice luvvie ancodotes to be gleaned.



Living Islam by Akbar S. Ahmed (Penguin/BBC, £6.99)

Akbar Ahmed stresses the enlightened basis of this burgeoning faith - which is now embracing a billion in highly diverse societies. His analysis of the Rushdie case is instructive, yet he fails to address many concerns. Why should Muslim women have to embrace the "modesty" that Ahmed blithely accepts on their behalf? His explanation of the brutal punishments inflicted by a small number of regimes is sketchy and unconvincing.



Grandmother's Footsteps by Imogen Lycett Green (Pan. £5.99)

With her helmet-head of silver hair and legs like a grand piano's, Penelope Betjeman was every bit as substantial a figure to her grandchildren as their grandfather was to the outside world. When she died at the age of 73 on a Himalayan mountain-side, her granddaughter decided to relive her last journey to her beloved "Injer". A spirited book that remembers a woman, who, if this were E.M. Forster, would be Mrs Moore.



Waiting for the Dark Waiting for the Light by Ivan Klima (Granta, £5.99)

Distanced by his lens, Czech cameraman Pavel observes the events of 1989: demonstrations, speeches and the collapse of atrophied authority. He carries a film in his head, a Tarkovsky-like narrative of repression and escape, but it comes no nearer being made after the Velvet Revolution, Laced with black humour, this former dissident's novel about fallibility and vacillation is much in tune with our times.



edited by Misha Glenny (Pan Books, £9.99)

Radio 4 listeners may be surprised to hear that From Our Own Correspondent has been running for 40 years. This collection from the series includes such gems as Gerald Priestland reporting from inside a pantry in Ragoon and Stephen Jessel on the disposal of Parisian dog shit: but whether it's 1955 or 1993, the BBC correspondent's tone of measured good sense and understated emotion remains uncannily unchanged.



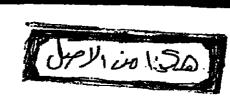
The Making of Victorian Sexual Attitudes by Michael Mason (Oxford, £8.99)

Mason proposes that the powerful 19th-century urge to take the pleasure out of sex (which he terms "antisensualism") had secular, even radical, origins rather than a religious cause. There was also a host of individuals, some engagingly cranky, who opposed the prevailing orthodoxy. An absorbing subject, scrupulously researched, but marred by Mason's overly scholastic style and abstruse arguments.



The Priest: A Gothic Romance by Thomas M. Disch (Orion, £5.99)

In the Roman Catholic church of Thomas M. Disch's imagination, priests ritually molest altar boys, kidnap young girls from abortion clinics and hire hoods to do their dirty work - they also like to hang out with really satanic tattoo artists. An unsteadying mix of Lewis's The Monk and Puzo's The Godfather, but so absorbingly told you don't even have to have your doubts about the Catholic Church to embrace it.



country



On your bike How to become a master of the urban traffic world page 10

Happy hampers

This Christmas. let someone else provide the food page 14

Button up



Camel, pastel or bright orange, your winter coat should be a show-stopper page 14

Nowhereland Simon Calder visits Lake Baikal in Siberia

page 22

Going out

Our regular guide to things to see and places to go this weekend pages 16 & 17



leven years ago Paul and Judy Rose were out in Peru backpacking. As they sat outside a hotel admiring a view of the mountains, a dlama wandered up and sat next to them. And so a great love affair was born.

Today in the steep-sided valley behind their Cotswold home, they have one of the biggest herds of llamas in Europe. Judy stares pointedly at husband Paul and says, "I think somebody got a bit carried away."

The Roses, of Temple Guiting, Gloucestershire, have more than 60 llamas, which they keep for breeding. The couple have grown accustomed to the sound of squealing brakes as trippers stop and reverse for another look.

Most of the villagers are fascinated by them," says Paul, 47. "If they have weekend visitors they il bring them to have a look. But some of the older people think it's all very strange."

Liamas certainly look strange, especially a herd of them in a Cotswolds field. They're very attentive, watching every move you make with big doe eyes. Occasionally they make a faint,

high-pitched moaning sound. Judy Rose says they take little looking after. "If there's not much grass, we supplement a bit of concentrate - a sort of ilama mix with

the minerals they need. "They come from Peru where there are buge extremes in temperature, so most of the time they're fine outside. We've had one heavy snow when we put the new mums away, but they don't have to have shelter - only in very harsh conditions like a blizzard."

The Roses wince when asked the question they most often hear. Don't llamas spit at you?
"Ask anybody about llamas," says Judy, "and all you hear is, 'Oh yes, they're the animals that spit.' We really have to overcome

this misconception." "They're a herd animal with a pecking order," adds Paul. "If any of them try to change that order they'll spit at each other. But they hardly ever spit at people.

"They're very gentle and intel-ligent - and fun. In the morning they'll all be sat down and they won't just be anywhere. They'll either be all in a straight line or in a circle, or some sort of very geometric formation. And if you

see them in a line it's very often by size - it's rather curious."

They obtained their first breeding pair when they moved from London nine years ago and bought the manor house in Temple Guiting and 15 acres of land. There were no "Teach Yourself Llama Farming" books, so they learnt as they went along.

Apart from the llamas being much in demand at village fetes, the Roses sell them in Britain and abroad, male llamas starting at £500. Paul Rose admits they are a hobby run riot - the day job is running a publishing company but he believes llamas are more than just a passing fad. He is keen to promote them as a farm ani-

mal, but has had a negative

response from farmers. "One of the problems with them is that you can't breed up quickly. With ostriches you can make yourself a financial plan that this year you'll have so many eggs and then next year it will multiply to such and such. Llamas only have one baby a year, and not every year. I still think they're a long-term commercial proposi-

tion, but I'd say very long term." They're eaten in South Amer-

ica, but here they're too expensive to make rearing them for meat viable. So what exactly are llamas good for?

The British Camelids Limited Owners and Breeders Association has some 200 members, who own around 2,000 llamas nationally. To many, they're simply nice to have around, to keep the horse company and show at game fairs. Some have found other uses. Retired turf contractor Mike Spooner and his wife Jennifer offer visitors llama-trekking trips

on the South Downs in summer. "It's mostly a weekend occupation," says Mrs Spooner, who keeps eight of the animals. "We've found it very popular, particularly with people who come from London and want to do something a bit different.

"Llamas are very sure-footed. Adults can carry 100lb and because they have small feet with a leathery pad, they don't cut up the paths like heavier animals."

But can ilamas pay their way on a farm? One farmer who thinks so is Jamie Freeman, from Headcorn in Kent. He had a terrible problem with foxes - one year he lost between 30 and 40 lambs. Then he read an article extolling the virtues of llamas as guards. So Jamie bought a llama called Lawrence from the Roses two years ago.

"After that I didn't get any problems. Llamas mark their territories with their dung and then stake out the field. If a fox comes into a field the llama will scare him away by walking up and star-ing him out. They can use their back legs, and will spit, but that's a last resort." Another use for llamas, and

their cousins alpacas, is the fibre from their coats. It is much softer and finer than wool and because each strand is hollow, garments made from it are very warm. Retired jeweller Peter Knowles-

Brown, who farms 1,000 acres near Moffat in Scotland, keeps llamas and is convinced they offer a commercial future for him. "I'm a hill farmer – it's just

sheep on a very limited income. and with the threat of subsidies going, two-thirds of my income will disappear. I have to find alternative farming.

"Llamas are fantastic farm animals. I have 35 llamas and from them I reckon I could get the

same income as I can out of 500-

Members of the British Camelids association pool their fibre together in 50 kilo loads. They are turned into yarn then into sweaters and cloth.

So far the use of llama fibre to make garments in Britain has been very small scale. And according to Dr Angus Russel of the Macaulay Land Use Research Institute in Aberdeen, it's likely to stay that way.

We have come to the conclusion that fibre is not a viable option for UK farmers. I don't think the fibre from llamas or alpacas is of a sufficiently high quantity to attract the price necessary to make it commercial. The cost of keeping them would outigh the value of the fibre

"But there's no doubt they're well suited to conditions in the UK; they survive in some pretty tough parts of the country.

"Most of the people who keep them are pretty well-heeled. If they want to have the company of llamas there's nothing wrong with that. They're super animals and there are many worse ways to

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A little local trouble

A weekly round-up of rural rows

An unusually large fox has been Akilled in Dyfed after being linked to 15 sheep deaths in two weeks. Farmers at Tregaron feared the animal massacring their sheep might have been a big cat, but this was disproved when it was shot.

One of them, Ednyfed Jones, said: "The record for the heaviest fox in Britain is 27lbs. This one was 21lbs, and farmers in the area have never seen a fox so big." Since the fox's death, there have been no further reports of sheep killings.

Intreated sewage may still be leaking into a river in Clwyd. four years after Welsh Water promised to fit their treatment works with an early warning device. The company admitted "minor pollution" of River Clywedog in 1991, but locals say that the problem continues. Plaid Cymru has had water samples analysed and found bacteria connected with human sewage, such as E.coli and faecal streptococci. However, Welsh Water said that the bacteria do not necessarily come from a sewage plant.

Afarmer near Leeds was fined A£6,000 as a result of an incident when a small boy fell into a vat of sheep dip on his farm. The dip contains organophosphate insecticide, which has been linked to health problems among farmers, and three-year-old Ryan Ellis was kept in intensive care for four days after the accident in April.

Every time the report mentioned death-watch beetle, it seemed to intensify the menace by quoting its Latin name

It is not every day that one has to run up a chainsaw in a tight corner near the ceiling of one's sitting room, with exposed electric cables hanging out above and below. But desperate problems demand desperate solutions.

I should love to know how old our farmhouse is. We reckon 300 years at least, and a visiting dowser, as he swung his pendulum in the kitchen. once got a message that building had started in 1681.

When we bought the place 10 years ago, three centuries of settlement had left the house without a single upright wall or right-angle corner. In particular, subsidence had played havoc with the windows in the western end. Some of the stone mullions had lurched to the right, some to the left, and the coating of pebbledash stucco, put on as a weathershield maybe 50 years ago, had cracked and bowed.

In short, the house looked awful, and we vowed one day to put things right. Now at last we have started and, sure enough, the old building has struck back.

The lintels above the windows were once baulks of oak four inches thick and 12 wide. Removal of stonework and plaster revealed that they are now

largely powder. I had always understood that if your house is infested with death-watch beetle, in the still watches of the night you can hear a faint clicking noise as the little brutes chew their way through beams or knock their heads against wood as a signal to their mates. Well - for 10 years we had listened acutely and heard nothing whatsoever, so it was an unpleasant surprise to discover what a feast they had made of our timbers.



DUFF HART-DAVIS

Of course, it is possible that they quit or died while Queen Victoria was still on the throne. Nevertheless, at some stage they had concentrated their efforts on a most vulnerable spot, where a main beam that carries the living room ceiling rests on a lintel over a window.

Not only had the lintel been pulverised: the end of the beam had also been chewed into dust. With decay so advanced, there was a real chance that if we had not taken remedial action soon, the ceiling might suddenly have come down.

The immediate answer was to install a forest of Acroprops, the wind-up supports so beloved of builders. There was one in the cellar, floor to ceiling; another directly on top of it in the sitting room, ditto; two in the window opening - and for several nights we scarcely dared breathe in our bedroom

What finally drove us out was the searing stink of the insecticide with which a specialist firm injected the surviving beams. Every time the inspector's report mentioned death-watch beetle, it seemed to intensify the menace by quoting in brackets the

Latin name, Xestobium rufovillosium.

Not all our discoveries have been so traumatic. One is that the main roof steeply pitched at the bottom than at the top, with a bend in the middle. We also found that in the walls above the bedroom windows mice had laid in a store of walnuts, whose shells are now as desiccated as anything that was found in Tutankhamun's tomb. How they got the nuts in there remains a mystery, for the walls are two feet thick.

After six weeks of unspeakable dust and increasingly cold draughts, the new window-surrounds are in place. The mullions and drip-moulds, cut from a quarry near Bath, look beautifully sharp and solid. All we lack now are actual windows.

And that episode with the power saw? Ah, yes: needless to say, the one slab of oak that we found in pristine condition protruded into a space needed for the end of a new concrete lintel. Enter yours truly with his Stihl Wood Boss. In the confined space, the noise and fumes were appalling, but I managed to take off six inches of oak without touching either stone or elec-

When everything is finished, the house will look infinitely better. The whole structure at one end will be stronger, and we shall sleep more soundly, secure in the knowledge that our chances of dropping into the sitting room at dead of night have been

much reduced. But I have a nasty feeling that Xestobium rufovillosum is, or has been. grinding its teeth in many other places, and that our present upheaval will prove merely the first of several similar earthquakes.



Where in Britain do people live the most satisfying - or unsatisfying - lives? Read our unique survey into the quality of life

Hot to trot: the bridled passions of 'The Other Pony Club', where equestrianism of a very different kind is on offer

Plus: children's books, how to belly dance and how Torvill met Dean

IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

No queues, no road rage, no contest

Gerard Gilbert hasn't looked back since trading his car for a 500cc Honda

didn't mean to do it, I swear. mean the clothes for a start. I am not one of those lame souls who think bikers look cool; motorcycle couriers generally just look aggrieved

This was no Pauline conversion on the road to work; no revelation in the rush hour. The experience was more akin to falling in love; gradual and unexpected and just as likely to end in tears.

"You'll be dead within weeks." cheerily prophesied my brother on learning that I had passed my test, and indeed I have a fair idea of in what manner he will be proved right. I'll be overtaking a slowish moving car when that car turns right without indicating. It's happened three times now. (So far I've just had my foot run over by an imperious Joan Sanderson type. You shouldn't have been there anyway," was the extent of her concern. The really

painful thing was that she was probably right.)

Death and serious injury are the biker's companions. They are not constant companions, but it is good to remind yourself of their existence at least once a day, lest you do something really rash, like believe a car is turning left just because it is indicating left. So why would anyone ever put a crash helmet on their head and, otherwise unprotected, join that vicious, deadly psychodrama we call traffic? Fighting for space with armour-plated Volvos and lorry drivers counting sheep at the wheel. Is biking, like sex, something so elemental and overpowering that we will risk our

Taking a bend down a country lane at 60 mph and at a 45 degree angle can, as the saying goes, be better than sex - but, no, that's not the answer. The thing is, sad to relate, that motorbiking is so damn convenient. Especially in a big city like London.

Name your three biggest bug-bears of getting from A to B in the metropolis. They are: the gridlocked roads (or the rundown, stress-inducing public transport); the expense of either maintaining a car or purchasing an annual season ticket; and, if,



Gerard Gilbert (centre), master of the urban environment

like me, you gave up using public transport years ago, the constant problem of finding somewhere to park. With a motorbike these seemingly immutable obstacles are banished overnight. Just like that.

What do you see at the traffic lights, at the head of every line of traffic? Motorcyclists, of course. Imagine how liberating it must be to know exactly how long a journey will take - and that it won't take very long. Imagine cars banished from your cityscape. Cars are still a menace, but they are no longer an obstacle.

Needless to say, bikers don't suffer from road rage, and -being considered a different, almost invisible, species by car drivers - are generally not the recipients of road rage. And if a ria, and saunter in unhassled and BMW or a Porsche should decide ready for retail therapy. Next but even a Jacques Chirac must

to reenact the car chase from Bullitt with you? Eat dust, sucker. The Zen of motorcycling is in the acceleration.

You become the master of your urban environment rather than its slave, a fact made more blissful by the ease and cheapness of parking. Someone, sometime (I am prepared to believe it was God doing some part-time consultancy work for the GLC) has liberally sprinkled London with "solo motorcycle parking" bays. There is always one near where you want to park, they nearly always have space, and they are free. If you want to go to Peter Jones in Sloane Square, the Empire Leicester Square, or Gap in Oxford Street - simply park your bike just behind these empo-

Cars for Sale

time you're waiting for someone wonder at the waste involved in to unclamp your "nimble" little hatchback, think of me.

I use my Honda CB500 (heartily recommended to townies, although longer journeys can weary the bum) for commuting through central London and visiting country pubs at the weekend - and all on £7 and a few pence each week in petrol. Larger bikes, I am aware, can drink petrol as hungrily as the average family saloon - but you'd be stupid to ride anything much bigger than a 500cc in a big city anyway. It's like keeping greyhounds in a high rise flat; and anyway superbikes are not as nifty in the denser traffic.

Registration Numbers

upholstered company cars, dreaming along to Radio Four. And then you realise why car Don't forget, bikes are green, drivers need to be so cosseted in too. I'm not exactly the most envithe first place. If you going ronmentally conscious of people, nowhere slowly, you might as

Motoring

page please

telephone

Mark

Chanda

0171 293

2338

carrying around just one person

in a car. To paraphrase Mrs

Thatcher: there's no such thing as

a traffic jam, just individuals and

their cars - and most cars are just

do you carry that interesting lamp stand you bought in Peter Jones?

Just how do you dress stylishly on

a motorbike? Also, when the

weather gets really cold, all those

wet leaves, black ice and imperi-

ous Joan Sanderson types can

make you envy the cosseted dri-

vers in their heated, leather-

Oh, there are drawbacks: how

carrying one individual.

Ducati's dream machine

What the 748 lacks in size it makes up for in speed. By Roland Brown

Anyone who has contemplated choosing a new car will be familiar with the array of engine sizes available beneath most bonnets. Things are simpler in the motorcycle world. The big difference that even a small capacity change makes to performance helps ensure that new bikes are normally designed from scratch rather than being existing models with different engines.

Ducati is one exception. Having introduced smaller capacity versions of its popular 900SS and M900 Monster, which were less successful than the originals, it did not make the same mistake with the latest model. the 748. This time, Ducati has produced a scaled-down sportster with thrilling performance and a distinct appeal of its own.

Much of the smaller bike's quality is down to the machine from which it was sensation last year with its combination of potent new 748 virtually identical apart from its engine. That certainly goes for the gorgeous, flowing styling that extends all the way from the sharp, sensuous snout to the twin exhaust silencers poking from the seat unit.

The 748 Biposto's frame, a traditional Ducati ladder of steel tubes, is borrowed directly from the 916. So, too, is the suspension - a combination of top-quality telescopic forks and single rear shock absorber from Japanese specialist Showa.

Ducati's trademark V-twin engine layout features cylinders spaced at 90 degrees and set in line with the bike. Like the 916's motor, the 748cc unit is fuel-injected and watercooled, with twin overhead cams and eight valves, operated by a desmodromic system of positive closure. The motor contains



The Docati 748: high-revving

plus a lighter flywheel that allows it to rev faster, producing an maximum of 98hhp at 11,000rpm.

It's this high-revving nature that gives the 748 its distinct appeal. At 6,000 rpm, when the 916 would be leaping forward violently, the 748 is merely warming up, which necessitates frequent gear changing. But all is for-given at 7,500rpm, when the 748cc motor suddenly takes off, heading towards 11,000 developed. The 916 caused a rpm with a spine-tingling surge of acceleration. The harder the 748 is ridden the engine, agile handling and litalian style. Ducati left the a superb chassis whose light better it responds, aided by weight, rigid frame, taut suspension and sticky tyres combine to provide almost unbeatable cornering ability.

The Ducati's streamlined hodywork and racy riding position are ideal for fast riding, but the tale is very different at lower speeds, when the 748 is horribly uncomfortable. Anyone forced to endure a long trip on the pillion seat, too, might be tempted to question the legal use of the name Biposto.

The 748 is certainly not the machine for every rider, or for every journey. It is expensive, at £10,000, and owners' patience has been tested by a spate of recalls and electrical problems. But when bike and rider are in the right mood, the sun is shining, and the road is twisty and free of traffic, the 748 Bipósto proves that a downsized V-twin can be just many new parts, and features as much fun as the original.

motoring



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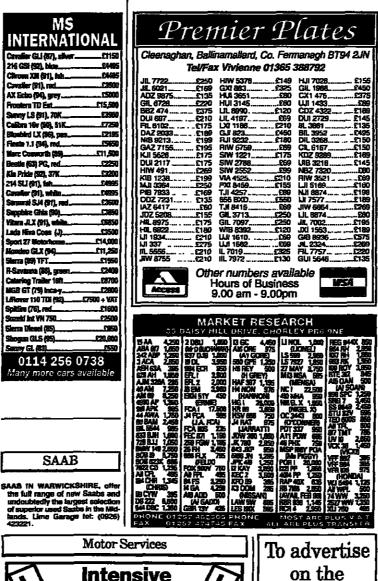
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You always thought diesel stank? Well, you were right — now they tell us

t's official: diesel cars are dirtier than petrol cars. Or, rather, that is the official view now.

Given that "official" thinking on environmental transport issues seems to change about as often as transport secretaries, there's no guarantee that this latest thinking - as decreed last week by

government scientists - will be arry more permanent than the old thinking.
Old thinking? Yes, you may remember that only a few

years back, we were being

urged, by environmentalists

(who naïvely believed that just because a diesel car used less fuel, it must be greener), car makers (keen to propagate a new trend and therefore sell more new cars) and politicians (determined to ump on to the green bandwagon) that diesel was good - despite the sooty evidence to the contrary. It seems that our eyes and our noses were right all along. What you saw (and smelt) was indeed what you got. The government scientists are now telling us that between 2,000 and 10,000 people a year, specifically those with respiratory or heart problems, may be being killed

hy diesel fumes. The worst offenders are not cars at all, but buses. Yes, those characterful old doubledeckers are the foulest diesel polluters of all. Does this come as any surprise? Just look at the filth that comes out of the back of a Routemaster or a Metrobus when it accelerates down a crowded high street.

It is far from being the first transport environmental volte-face of recent times. Not so long ago, we were all being urged to convert to unleaded fuel - a few years before another one of these "official" reports said, well, actually, er, the extra benzene added to unleaded fuel to died in America because it



compensate for the loss of lead may be causing cancer, so it's probably best not to have converted your car at all. So

It really is hard to be an environmentally conscious motorist these days. Just as it's very hard to believe anything uttered on the subject from environmental lobbyists, car makers, the oil industry, or politicians.

This confusion has been so unnecessary. If only we'd taken notice of international trends, and forgotten about local issues, much of the recent misguided diesel and unleaded contention could have been avoided. Britain was one of the few countries in the world to encourage the widespread use of unleaded fuel before the simultaneous use of catalytic converters. In America, Japan, Germany, Australia and other countries the two went hand in glove, as they are designed to. The catalysts kill off the benzene. No converters mean more air-borne benzene. Sounds simple. But it's a fact that environmentalists overlooked, and experts in the car and oil industries have clearly

Our recent embrace of diesel, having sensibly spurned the stuff for years. was equally misguided. Experts in America and Japan, the two countries that traditionally have had the toughest emission regulations. dismissed diesel as an environmentally unfriendly fuel for their cars years ago. Diesel

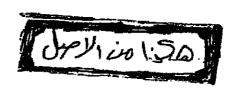
couldn't meet the pollution regulations. That surely should have been enough of a warning for us. Europe is the only devel-

oped part of the world where diesel cars are popular, and even here it is mainly the French who promote them. And the French are keen for the EU to continue to encourage their use.

Why? The French first encouraged the use of diesel to reduce the amount of oil it imported (diesel cars are more frugal). Because of the resulting popularity of diesel in France, the French have become the world leaders in its technology. Some other European makers have followed suit and invested heavily in diesel research and production. Europe's car makers now have a vested interest in

its popularity. Given that the European car market is about to be opened to all comers at the end of this decade, doesn't it make sense to bias taxation in favour of a technology that Europe dominates, and one in which Europe's main auto-motive rivals - Japan and America - are weak? That has been the French position. There are many other European governments who like the sound of the argument and, indeed, in most EU countries diesel is marginally cheaper in garage forecourts than petrol (in France, massively so).

So where does that leave you, the concerned green motorist keen to minimise his or her damage on the environment? The current thinking is that you'd do best to drive a small, new petrol car (being new, it will have a catalytic converter as standard). If you can't afford new, go for a second-hand petrol car with a catalyst. Mind you, that's today's thinking. It may be different next week.





Kate and John Dyson's garden was an elderly

The previous

Something a little mysterious

WORKSHOP The Dysons have a problem with the bottom of their garden. Anna Pavord advises

"We have been working on our garden for 16 years, gradually turning it from an overgrown jungle into an informal place where the family can relax. There is one part we still have to tackle and that is the bottom of the garden round the old shed — used as a munitions factory by the local ladies of Barnes during the First World War. They made shells there. It is covered with an old and wonderful wisteria that rampages nearly to the top of a large poplar tree beside it. The garden boundary is an 18th-century wall of mellow brick. Between the end of the shed and the wall is a dark comer shaded by a high holly tree which is protected by a

"Our problem is to work out how to plant this area. It has for ages been used as the compost and bonfire corner. As the wall is only a few feet away from our next-door neighbour, we have moved the bonfire and compost heap, thinking them a bit unneighbourly where they were. This opens up quite a large space, where there are all sorts of possibilities: fems, a collection of shade-tolerant plants, something a bit mysterious. What would suit it best?"

preservation order.

band, John, live in a tall house looking over the river at Barnes, in southwest London. The garden is all at the back of the
house, about 25ft wide and six

Mrs Dyson has an antique shop, times as long. The boundary on the south side turns in a dog leg so that the bottom of the garden is a good 15ft wider than the top. The bottom boundary, as Mrs overpowered by ivy.

The previous owner left the elderly vegetarian in question, had lived in the Barnes house all her life and did not believe in killing things. The Dysons inherburied deep within it. Crawling on their hands and knees through the undergrowth, they found the munitions hut, complete with patriotic flags, rise-and-fall lights. maps and boxes of earphones. A family of foxes lives under it

Despite the 16 years of clearing, the garden still has a dark, secretive air. It is richly planted with old roses and delphiniums, hollyhocks and geraniums, with big trees rising around the boundaries. Close to the house is a birch and in the far right-hand corner, an ash. The corner that the Dysons want to tackle is guarded by a superb tall holly. If you creep under its branches, you come to the empty corner where the bottom wall meets the left-hand boundary. It is hidden from the rest of the gar-

ate Dyson and her hus- den and I felt something should be happening there - a grotto perhaps or a strange obelisk - that would be a surprise and a pleasure so might be able to put her hand on the odd grotto or crumbling stone statue.

The holly, a fabulous tree, needed some expert trimming, to Dyson mentioned in her letter is make it more of a lure and less of formed by a magnificent old brick a barrier. The Dysons had had the wall of 1720, at the moment rather top taken out of it, leaving some stringy branches sprouting awkwardly from the truncated crown. house in her will to the Society If these were cut out, it would of Elderly Vegetarians. I thought enhance the profile of the tree. me it is not. Miss Doubleday, the losing any of the mystery, it would be easier to get under the tree into the secret corner.

The way to lift the canopy of a tree is not to whizz round the botited a jungle with the bones of a tom with a chain saw, like a chef late Victorian sunken garden trimming pastry from a tart, but to run your hand up each individual branch and cut it where it ioins on to a larger branch. In this way, you retain the natural, drooping, fringed outline that is characteristic of holly. A good arboriculturist goes with the flow of a tree. A bad one reduces everything - ash, elm, oak, holly, to interchangeable butchered

> To the right of the holly tree lay the mounds left by the bonfires and compost heaps that used to occupy the area. They looked like what they were. They should he levelled out and the bonfire ash used round the borders in the rest of the garden. But looking at this specific area that the Dysons were ing about that corner in isolation. flowers in July and August.

Whatever went on in the corner had to work with whatever was to happen along the rest of the bottom of the garden.

The Dysons were planning an island bed, with summer flowers on the right, where the garden was quite open and sunny. The holly was the only dominant feature on the left, together with the old brick wall. I suggested they stripped the ivy off the wall (there is plenty of undergrowth elsewhere in the garden for wildlife) and used it for plants which would be bold enough to sing out, even from the distance of the kitchen, on the first floor of the house.

Taking as the key the holly, at autumn and winter crescendo here at the bottom of the garden, throwing a giant-leaved Vitis coignetiae at the wall, and lacing it through with late-flowering Viticella clematises and the whiteflowered Solanum iasminoides 'Album'. In autumn the leaves of the vine turn a fiery scarlet before falling. They would look superb with the holly.

Because of the burning and the composting going on down at the bottom of the garden, there hadn't previously been much room for shrubs, though there was weary-looking hypericum there. To me, hypericum smells of nothing but bus stations and roundabouts. Out with it, I urged. In with a jagged-leaved mahonia to bloom now with cowslip-scented flowers and perhaps a bold hydrangea, such as H sargentiae which has leaves as rough as sharkskin, as big as dinner plates. wanting to tackle, you could see The hydrangea would extend the that in fact it was no good think- season backwards a little as it

With these two landmark shrubs in place and the vision of the wall behind, clothed in bold climbers, you could begin to see how this space would work. You would wander down through the garden, drawn on initially by the imposing bulk of the ancient wisteria. This ate its original supports long ago and it is now jacked up from underneath with some very

Coming round the wisteria, you would then be led on towards the holly with the mahonia and the hydrangea grouped to the right of it. There, an informal narrow path would lead past the shrubs with its shining leaves and berries. the holly, to bring you to the cor-

nifty carpentry carried out by Mr

this must be a Beachcomber The canopy of leaves could be its best from autumn onwards and bend round to the left, under invention, but the Dysons assure lifted a little, too, so that, without with its shining leaves and berries. the Dysons could orchestrate an ner shrine. The main path would lift round to the right, run roughly parallel with the bottom boundary and curl itself round the summer island hed. Since the holly will be taking a

fair amount of moisture out of the ground and the soil itself is light and free-draining, the Dysons should not perhaps be too ambitious with their planting between the shrubs and the holly. They could introduce a few ferns, such as polypodys, which would not mind the dry situation. They would give a little height and a great deal of finesse to the scheme. Then they could carpet the ground underneath with masses of bulbs such as snowdrop. scilla and the corms of spring- and autumn-flowering cyclamen. The grotto/obelisk would moulder quietly away in its corner, attracting mosses and lichens, perhaps with ivy licking around its feet. Although you would not be able to see it from the house, the Dysons would know it was there - a powerful, hidden secret.

They should be uprooted at dawn

A handful of plants tyrannise British gardens. Diarmuid Gavin organises a coup d'état



t's like military conscription.

A handful of plants which insist on doing national service in a majority of gardens all over the British Isles.

Behind garden walls and fences they lurk, and, in SASstyle operations, they hop

over garden boundaries and virtually dig themselves in.

Alternatively, they strike in garden centres. The unsuspecting buyer is wheeling a trolley up and down the aisles. They turn their back for a moment, and in hops a laurel here and a choisya there. And, of course, when you get them home and planted they thrive - unlike many of the carefully chosen specimens you actually wanted.

The other way these plants make their almost miraculous appearances in gardens. is through landscapers and garden designers. It's a bit like that Milk Marketing Board advertisement - cheerful milkmen leading a line of walking bottles to the doorstep. From my own experience in the landscaper's van, I can tell you that these plants have virtually to be tied down, such is their exuberance at the prospect of being planted. Once in the ground their roots spread like wildfire. And even if they are not cared for they thrive, putting on new growth annually at a ferocious rate.

Some of these plants can, from time to time, pleasantly surprise even the most cynical plant snob. But in general, there needs to be a coup d'état. The following plants can be safely banished.

Forsythia: it may herald the end of winter, but when you see one in every garden. its dazzling effects wear off.

Pampas grass (Cortaderia selloana): This can be a most elegant plant, but more often than not ends up badly used and hattered. And have you ever tried to move it?

Common laurel (Prunus well in shade but its large glossy green leaves make me want to run for cover.

Leyland cypress (Cupressocyparis leylandii) plus Cupressus macrocarpa and griselinia: These should be whipped out without any explanation. Mind you, perhaps a letter of condolence could be sent to the more choice members of their respective families.

Senecio greyi: when used

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well in an open sunny situation this can be a joy to behold. But more often than not it is lanky and woody and the flowers are sporadic.

Ancaba japonica 'Macu-iata': a perfectly fine plant, very useful for the shade - if someone didn't always come along and sprinkle it with lots

Philadelphus: wonderful but totally overused. Vinca major or minor, who cares?

Clematis montana: gets out

of control so fast. Wonderful when in flower, but more thought would lead to a better choice, like the 'President'.

Variegated poplar: a devastation to the land. This is the one plant that will singlehandedly stop an invasion by the Russians. It is deserving of its own scorched earth policy. But, if we banish these pop-

ular favourites, what to replace them with? Garden centres and nurseries are packed with other choices, some being old foot soldiers while others are fresh

young imports. Common gorse (Ulex europaeus) and yew (Taxus baccata) have been around for ever and may at first glance appear too ordinary. But both can give great ser-

vice in the right setting. Chinese gooseberry (Actinidia kolomikta) has splashes of cream and pink on its foliage as it matures. Another climber for colour effect is Hedera helix 'Buttercup', a variegated ivy which makes a change from 'Goldheart'. The leaves are a good deal smaller. slightly crinkled and have a lot more colour.

Arbutus unedo, the Killarney strawberry tree, is evergreen, hardy and produces its red fruit at this time of the year, while the false acacia (Robinia) should not be missed for leaf shape and colour.

In midwinter it is hard to beat witch hazel (Hamamelis laurocerasus): it may do very mollis), with its heavily scented yellow flowers, so

vivid against its bare wood. And, lastly, an appeal to replant one of the countryside's finest plants: hawthorn is disappearing with the country's hedgerows. No tree offers such a refuge to our native wildlife.

> Diarmuid Gavin is a writer and gardener, and runs the Dublin School of Garden Design

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WEEKEND WORK

'Keep your bulbs damp'

overs of tender perenni-Lals hover at this time of the year with buckets of sand, ashes and peat to heap over the crowns of their favourite plants. This a round-seeded variety such extra protection helps prevent frost damage during winter, but is not always successful. Tender shrubs, particularly evergreens, may need windbreaks built round them. Use broken twigs, straw, bracken or fern fronds. Protect the crowns of globe artichokes with loosely packed straw or bracken. I gather net curtains work well, too. although I've not tried

Check that the bulbs you may be forcing inside for early flowers have not dried out. The compost should be damp but not soggy. Outside, talips should be in the using them in mixed bor- the clamps. ders, plant them extra deep.

This way, you are less likely to spear them when forking

over the soil. In sheltered areas, sow a row of early peas, choosing as 'Feltham's First'. You could also try a row of broad beans. 'Aquadulce Claudia' is a good choice for planting at this time of the year, but autumn sowing is a gamble. Cloches will provide necessary protec-tion if the weather takes a turn for the worse, but rodents are more difficult to guard against.

Dig over any ground that is clear of crops and plants, leaving the soil in rough clods to be broken down by

Continue to cut down and clear away old stems of Michaelmas daisy, goldenrod and perennial verbasground now. If you are cum. Mulch thickly round

CUTTINGS



Contessa Karin Antonini is a Ugranddaughter of the Arts and Crafts architect Sidney Barnsley who cropped up in connection with Misarden Park and its garden (Independent, 5 August). She has pointed out that the family tradition continues with the **Edward Barnsley Educational** Trust which still trains apprentices and pupils in the Barnsworkshop, contact the trust at Cockshott Lane, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 1BB (01730 827329).

is the advantage of pruning a shoots.

campsis drastically if it hasn't flowered? How will it have benefited from its summer growth? I have been hoping that the hot summer might have initiated flower buds in the shoots for next summer."

Campsis flowers on new wood, so the hot summer will not, as Mrs Roberts hoped, have coaxed flower buds for next year out of this ley ways. For details of this year's growth. If you want the Arts and Crafts furniture campsis to fill more space. you can cut the new growth back by just a third in late winter or early spring. When it has filled all the space that you can let it have, prune the Intil I read your article on new growth harder, taking it back to within two or three August) I had been feeling buds of the older wood. This optimistic, looking for flower buds on my plant every day."
writes Pauline Roberts of campsis had only one shoot, Long Ashton, Bristol "It is I would be inclined to cut it growing in a barrel against a down to within six inches of south wall. About this severe the base this winter, to cutting back. How far? What encourage it to throw more

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property

The green, green fields of home are under threat: from houses, houses and yet more houses

By Anne Spackman

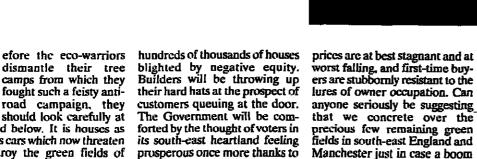
fought such a feisty anti-

should look carefully at

the land below. It is houses as

much as cars which now threaten

to destroy the green fields of



England. A new study published this week by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation warns that London, Manchester and the Home Counties face an acute housing shortage due to a larger than expected growth in the numbers of households in these regions. New Government figures suggest household numbers up to the year 2011 have been underestimated by 25 per cent - meaning 737,000 more households. House prices and rents will rise, it says, unless building levels increase to match this new need. The phrase

for the first time in a decade. This news is likely to be greeted with as much cuphoria as alarm. There will be cheers There are already thousands of

"new town" is being mentioned

prosperous once more thanks to the housing market.

However, local planners in the affected areas may not be so happy. Surrey has almost run out of open land that is neither Green Belt nor in a designated Area of Outstanding Beauty. Yet demand for property is predicted to rise by 20 per cent in the next

Berkshire is in a similar position. Household numbers are predicted to grow by 25 per cent in certain regions the market is an extra 80,000 homes – half of which will have to be accommodated on green field sites. An average develoment takes 12 houses per acre. That means Berkshire consigning 3,300 oneacre fields to bricks and mortar.

But hang on a minute, you say.

efore the eco-warriors hundreds of thousands of houses prices are at best stagnant and at the region are still selling fast, worst falling, and first-time buyers are stubbornly resistant to the lures of owner occupation. Can anyone seriously be suggesting that we concrete over the

> looms on the horizon? The Rowntree researchers this structural change from own-Wilcox and Alan Holmans, the former chief housing economist at the Department of the Environment. These are men who know their sums. "There is a misof the market and the projections," Steve Wilcox admits, "but rapidly than in others."

fields in south-east England and

the Home Counties have seen house price rises of up to 20 per cent in the past two to three years, while the rest of the coun-

with buyers reserving properties before they have been built.

Rents have also risen, particularly in the capital, as a result of increased demand from young professionals. It is now more expensive to rent a flat in London than to buy one. The Rowntree report believes

accept there is a paradox. The ing to renting among twentyauthors of the report are Steve somethings has reached a plateau. It coincided with the fall in the birth rate and followed a period in the 1980s when owneroccupation had been brought forward by the boom, resulting in match between the current state a real hole in the market for smaller properties this decade and long-term negative equity. They believe those renters are going to turn around more now at an age where they will opt for owner-occupation, increasing To a certain extent this is the numbers of first-time buyers already happening. London and in areas where the rental sector will remain strong.

They explain that as many as 50,000 of the extra households will be immigrants from the alarm. There will be cheers There are already thousands of try has stagnated. Many of the European Union and English to renovate old properties curresounding through all those unsold homes on the market, more up-market developments in people returning from overseas.

Many of them will be coming here for city-based jobs, again increasing pressure on housing stock in urban areas.

But the greatest additional requirement for housing will be in the rented sector, particularly the social rented sector. With new limits on the definition of homelessness and dimishing levels of cash being given to the Housing Corporation, this is unlikely to be met by the housing associations. Instead of increased provision, the Rowntree authors expect to see higher levels of over-crowding and a rise

in real homelessness. What, then, is to be done? The authors offer little hope to the generation ruined by negative equity. They expect their small flats to switch gradually from the private to the rented sector by the crude and painful mechanism of repossession.

However, Steve Wilcox thinks the Government should act on two other fronts: it should encourage housing associations

London Property

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ing a few fields and releasing some trapped owners while providing some new homes. In addition, it should take a stronger overview of planning in the private sector. If Surrey, Cheshire and Berkshire are too full or too expensive then families will move out to cheaper counties. This means increasing the planning requirement in areas like East Anglia or Lancashire to allow for

outward migration. Others might argue that market forces will take care of that. If people cannot afford to live in Berkshire they will try Wiltshire or Oxfordshire. If there are enough of them, the builders will start building on the land they are currently holding in reserve and the cycle of recovery will be in full swing.

At the moment there is no sign of that. To take Berkshire, the rate of housing starts in the county has fallen from a high of 6,000 in the early to mid 1980s to around 2,300 a year. The Rowntree report would require a level of around 4,000 starts a year.

On the housing estates which

already sprawl across the east of the county For Sale notices are flourishing. Lower Earley, south of Reading, is one of the largest suburban housing developments of the 1980s. The district is served by five estate agents - it was six until last year - and even the

there's a glut of Lower Earley

most successful is struggling. They can offer you anything from a one-bedroom flat to a four-bedroom detached house. The only shortage is a shortage of buyers. The only houses currently in short supply in Berkshire are period properties in quaint locations. More new housing will do nothing to ease that. If you stop on top of Junction

11 of the M4 and look north to Lower Earley you see row upon row of tiny modern roof-tops, the 1980's equivalent of a Coronation Street landscape. If you turn south you see fields with a few cows. At least, you do now. This is the land which would be earmarked for bricks and mortar. If there are no takers in Lower Earley, will they really find the buyers for a few thousand more new homes

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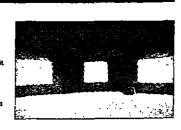
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Pile em high, sell em fast



Buyers queueing (above) at Galliard Homes' sale of flats (seen below) in County Hal

There are no estate agents, no brochures and you have to compete with 2,500 other buyers. Is this the way all property will be sold in the future? By Anne Spackman

ne Saturday morning a month ago, the County Hall building in central London looked like Harrods on the first day of the sale. Roy Conway went along the queue offering croissants to those at the front who had been waiting in line for at least two days. What was the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that had enticed them and 2500 others to the former GLC offices that weekend? The chance to buy a new flat.

It might seem ridiculous that in one of the bleakest years of the property recession, when builders are having to offer buyers ever more lucrative incentives, so many people would queue up to part with their money. But they do and it is because of the singular marketing strategy of the man behind the County Hall development, Roy Conway of Galliard Homes.

Roy Conway used to be a sales and marketing man for Levi Strauss. His expertise is in shifting well-branded goods. When he ers with such bargains. formed Galliard Homes four years ago he applied the same techniques to selling houses.

development, the company has an advertising blitz, announcing the weekend when the development will go on sale. Nobody can view beforehand, no brochures are sent out, no estate agents are involved. The adverts display the price of the cheapest property, which acts like the fur coat in the Harrods sale.

In the case of County Hall, the "fur coats" were priced at £99,000 for one-bedroom flats and £129,000 for two-bedroom flats. The 4,000 callers who responded to the reservation, but if someone comes adverts were told there were only four flats available at that price: if they wanted to get one they would



have to be there early. Just as a market trader pulls a crowd by giv-ing away the first £10 blanket for £5, so Galliard Homes draws buy-

At each sales weekend there are financial advisers and solicitors, so that keen customers can complete When Galliard is launching a a deal on the spot. The flats are pre-valued and normally priced below their valuation so there is no problem securing a mortgage. At County Hall, Galliard Homes

sold more than 100 apartments at

prices up to £450,000 in a weekend. Its model of the two vast blocks is awash with red stickers showing more than half the 411 flats have been sold. Not reserved, but actually sold with contracts exchanged. "We don't do reservations," Roy Conway says. "You can make a along and wants to exchange contracts we will sell it to them and refund your reservation."

One block of 117 flats went in Hong Kong, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, where this is the normal way of buying and selling property. Galliard Homes is about to return with 160 more. Another development of 80 apartments in Oxford was bought by one individual for the Hong Kong market. Roy Conway has now taken four developments to the Far East. "What's nice is that we keep seeing the same faces returning to buy from us

So are the buyers getting a bar-gain or are they simply being wowed by the sell? After all, buying a property is a very serious financial commitment which many people might argue requires more than an hour's reflection.

At their early developments in

London's Docklands – like Papermill Wharf, which sold out in a weekend - Galliard could afford to keep prices low because it bought the land at the bottom of the market. "We're not greedy," Roy Conway says. At County Hall, where the location is far more expensive and the specification higher, the company has kept its prices competitive. You can buy a three-bedthe price of a two-bedroom one in another new block further down the river. Buyers have to weigh up the various factors and work out

which suits them best. Many in the business doubted whether the pile 'em high and sell 'em fast philosophy would work when Galliard went up-market, where the buyers and the product are more sophisticated. To ensure the answer was 'yes". Galliard brought in Savills to give marketing advice. "We do our home-

work," Roy Conway says. Mr Conway has a reputation for

toughness. He is said to bargain down to the last penny over every batch of doors, kitchen units or inch of advertising space he buys. It is one reason why Galliard can keep prices low. Another is that the quick sell is built in as part of the costing. "Holding on to property is a very expensive hobby." Mr Conway points out.

Despite his hard reputation, Mr Conway is an affable, modest man with a rather old-fashioned attitude to business. He buys British whenever possible. He considers his 30 staff part of the family rather than short-term workers. They are expected to work hard, as he does, but he is not part of the new 60hour a week mentality. "I'm 57, if I get tired I take a day off. We all share the same philosophy," he says. "We want to succeed - but not at any price. We enjoy what we do. We have a good laugh."

Despite the success of Galliard Homes - it is expected to go public shortly in a reverse takeover of Harmony Property Group - Mr Conway still lives in a bungalow in an outer London suburb, where he is building an annex for his wife's mother. He has two holidays a year room apartment at County Hall for and he likes his golf, but that's about it.

Galliard has been lucky that County Hall has appeared on the market just as the South Bank's time has come. The Lottery has just come up with funding for the new Tate Gallery, the Globe Theatre is set to open, the Manhattan Loft Corporation is creating its largest warehouse development downstream at Bankside,

But there is no doubt Galliard's sales strategy is a crucial element of the development's success. Is this going to be the way more houses are sold in the future?



Cwbury, the Berkshire Hown that saw property prices fall 30 per cent when the boom ended, is leading the way out of recession. The latest Property Watch survey by Struit & Parker shows prices in the area rising steeply as a result of heavy demand for the few houses which come up for sale. Seven out of the last 11 sales in its Newbury office were agreed within a month.

Strutt & Parker compares sales of houses in three categories: a three-bedroom cottage in half an acre, a five-bedroom house in two acres and a nine-bedroom listed house in 17.5 acres. In the five-bedroom category. its Newbury office has seen prices rise from just over £400,000 in 1993 to £450,000 in 1994 and £500,000 this year.

St Albans in Hertfordshire and Lewes in Sussex have been the other strong performers in 1995, with the market being led by families moving out of London. Harrogate reports strong demand for country cottages and Exeter for period family houses. Five of the last six properties sold by Strutt & Parker's Exeter office have gone for more than the guide price.

The one region that has still not recovered from the body-blow it took in the recession is East Anglia. In Norwich, agents say house prices are the same now as nine years ago, continuing the fall that began in 1990. In Ipswich, prices for properties over the £300,000 mark have fallen by as much as 10 per cent this year. though demand remains strong in the £150,000 to £250,000 range.

For What It's Worth

he one region where the graph of property prices has consistently fallen since the boom is the north west of England. Agents in the region report a crisis of confidence among homeowners. They say first-time buyers are prefering new homes to second-hand properties, which are consequently continuing to fall in price. Andrew Steele of Black Horse Agencies in Burnley, writing in the monthly report of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, says: "Very low priced terraces under £10,000 are selling well to investors. Terraces above £20,000 are very slow. Low priced semis between £40,000 and £50,000 sell well. All other property is difficult unless discounted prices are available everyone has to negotiate."

Who's Moving

Ashark hangs from the Aceiling of Sam Neal's penthouse flat, possibly a souvenir from one of his

movies such as Heavenly Creatures. The actor is leaving his apartment, converted from a Victorian piano factory in Kentish Town, north London. Apart from the shark, it has a vast reception room with five windows, a galleried study, roof terrace, three bedrooms and two bathrooms. It is being sold by John D Wood in St John's Wood (0171-722 5556) with a guide price of £325,000.

Househunter Strete, south Devon



The 18th-century cob-andstone Thatch Cottage is at the end of a row of three in the village of Strete on the cliffs overlooking Start Bay, five miles down the coast from Dartmouth. It is basically a well-kept two-up. two-down, but with the luxury addition of an upstairs bathroom and a downstairs utility room. The garden, like most of the rooms, has a sea view. Marchand Petit in Kingsbridge (01548 857588) is asking £79,950.



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Warehouse, £120 A brilliant shape that looks quite luxurious. The wide collar and deep pockets give it a Seventies feel. Can be worn belted or unbelted. Those dedicated followers of fashion will know that camel is still a hot colour in many stores so a wide variety of styles are available. From branches of nationwide. 0181-910 1400



Lemon yellow long line jacket with double pocket. Light enough to be worn with nothing underneath or can be teamed with a matching shift dress, pencil skirt or trousers from Oasis. The double pocket hints at an old style Crombie, although the colour and cut are feminine. Also available in black. From Oasis, 292 Regent Street, W1 and selected branches. **Enquiries:** 0171-436 0474

Betty Jackson, £499.



Wool and mohair mix bristle-hair coat. This doublebreasted jacket is softened by the details of gathers at the shoulder and the back. This bright orange version offers a refreshing shot of colour for those of us who get drab over winter, but it also comes in grey, for those who don't. From Betty Jackson, 311 Brompton Road, London SW3. Enquiries: 0171-589 **7**884



Hobbs, £169.99 A natty little oerry coat in 100 per cent wool. This has a very flattering shape, which will suit most people, and comes both in pastel and bright shades. The rounded collars and gilt buttons give it a slightly Oueen Mum appeal. Altogether very smart, and practical, too. From branches of Hobbs nationwide. Enquiries: 0171-586 5550

Sportmax, £358

Single-breasted

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per cent nylon.

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in a beautiful

sensuous, it comes

watery blue. This

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the time to be buying safe, your

winter coat should be a show stopper.

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cent wool and 20

Coat with fake fur



0171-287 3434 A Jigsaw, £145 Pastel pink wool-mix coat with a deep collar. A flattering shape that gently scoops in at the waist. This iacket is both neat and warm enough to cut out the winter chill. From Jigsaw branches nationwide. Enquiries: 0181-878 8443



Your feast is in the post

Armchair cooks should start preparing Christmas food now. By Serena Mackesy

here is one thing that makes Christmas stand out for the epicures among us and that is that it is the one time of year when gluttony is not only acceptable but is a positive virtue. The annual explosion of turkey and pudding has, since the demise of the servant culture, been limited by the strength of the individual's will to spend time in supermarkets.

But things are looking up. The dedicated gourmand can nowadays fill the larder with every accoutrement of a lavish Yule without straying from the safety of the armchair. The day of luxury by mail order has

With it comes the death of the average dinner. Everyone knows that free-range is best, id the resurgence of rafer turkey breeds such as the bronze and the Norfolk Black has muted our taste for the white-feathered inhabitant of the freezer marts. Now

everyone can get to a barnyard. And, of course, if your palate has wearied of white meat, the choice of alternative fodder of a more outré kind is almost overwhelming. Your Druidic board can groan beneath the weight of wild boar, ostrich, smoked salmon steaks, bison or peacock, hand-thrown chocolates, firm, ripe cheeses and hampers of jellies and pickles and ruby wines.

Or maybe you think all this excess is a little tasteless. In which case you should try something low-key, like Seldom Seen Farm's Three-Bird Roast. This consists of a goose stuffed with a chicken stuffed with a pheasant, the whole thing layered up with spiced pork and orange. You'll be glad to know that everything has ben boned beforehand.

Derek Kelly Turkeys Ltd. Springate Farm, Bicknacre Rd. Danbury, Essex CM3 4E (01245 223581) 3kg free-range bronze turkeys £30.39 inc. delivery; 3kg white £28.27. Last orders 15 Dec.

Eastbrook Farm Organic Meats: High St, Shrivenham, Oxfordshire SN6 8AA (01793 790460). Turkeys from luxurious sur- tridge £5.80 (French £3.60), plus roundings. Organic white or bronze £7.16/kg inc delivery; free-range, £5.95/kg. Last orders 8 Dec. Also duck, geese, gammon and organic hampers.

Farm, Long Acre, Cookham, Berkshire SL6 9EE (01628 529595). Free-range bronze £5.20kg and barn-reared white turkeys £4.70/kg. Also geese £7/kg.

The Hereford Duck Co. Trelough House, Wormbridge, Hereford-shire HR2 9DH (01981 570767). Specialise in their own free-range, organic strain. £2.15/lb. Average bird 4-6lb. Delivery £10 for orders under £50. Last orders 21 Dec.

Seldom Seen Farm, Billesdon, Leicestershire LE7 9FA (0116 259 6742). Free-range geese £2.50lb. Three-bird roast (see introduction): £4.75/lb for an average 10-12lb package. Courier delivery £12. Last orders 10 Dec.

Goodman's Geese, Walsgrave Farm, Great Witley, Worcester WR6 6JJ (01299 896272). Freerange, grass and corn-fed geese £5.95/kg; bronze turkcys £4.60/kg. Courier delivery £11, or two birds for £15. Last orders 25 Nov.

Fletchers of Auchtermuchty, Reediehill, Auchtermuchty, Fife KY14 7HS (01337 828369). Home-reared venison, hung to perfection. Boneless haunch £6.20lb, casserole cuts £3.98/lb, sausages, haggis and other delicacies. Last orders by end Nov to allow for hanging. Delivery £8.95 for orders under £80. Very small orders by first-class post.

The Game Larder, Ryshett Farm, Chessington KT9 2NQ (01372 749000). Locally stalked roe and fallow deer £2.30-9.80/lb and parwoodcock, pheasant, wild duck, grouse and wild boar £5.20-7.60/lb hung to order. Bison £10.50-£20.20/lb, ostrich £18/lb, emu £18/lb, crocodile £9.60/lb, kangaroo £4.90/lb. Delivery £10 up to Copas Brothers, Lower Mount £100. Last orders 19 Dec, but allow for hanging time.

> Barrow Boar, Foster's Farm, South Barrow, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 7LN (01963 440315). Wild DOAT #4.50-#15.20/500g. Kid, ostrich and oven-ready peacock at £5.49/500g. Delivery £8.50; two weeks notice if possible.

Loch Fyne Smokehouse, Clachan Farm, Ardkinglas, Cairndow, Argyll PA26 8BH (01499 600217). The famous Loch Fyne kippers, £11.52 for 10 pairs; smoked salmon £19.25 side unsliced; fresh ovsters £4.80 dozen. Delivery £5.95. Last orders 15 Dec.

Ullapool, Highlands & Islands IV26 2YG (01854 622353). Smoked salmon tasting pack (four types) £17.50; two smoked salmon steaks for £9.50. Join the smoked salmon club and get a different product monthly for six months for £60. Last orders 2 Dec.

Summer Isles Foods, Achiltbuie,

The Fine Cheese Co. 29/31 Walcot St, Bath BA1 5BN (01225 483407) More than 100 British cheeses. Next day delivery £6.95. Last orders 20 Dec.

Hamish Johnston, 48 Northcote rich fruit with brandy.

Rd, London SW11 1PA (0171-738 0741) Fine range of British, French and Irish cheeses. Delivery by first-class post; orders preferably by 5 Dec.

Neal's Yard Dairy, 17 Short's Gardens, London WC2H 9AT (0171-379 7646). A broad range of farm cheeses. Try a selection for £20-25 plus £6 for courier delivery. Last orders 15 Dec.

Paxton and Whitfield, 93 Jermyn St SW1Y 6JE (0171-930 0259) Whole Stilton £75, baby Stilton £27.50, British farmhouse cheese selection £15. Last orders 15 Dec.

Anton Mosimann, 11b West Halkin St, London SW1X 8JL Large selection of foodie treats (01628 782254). Light version of traditional pudding, suitable for wine and Wensleydale to £145 for vegetarians and 227 calories a a groaning conglomeration of portion. Add brandy butter. 737g everything including cherries in pudding, £9.99 p&p. Last orders kirsch. Last orders 8 Dec.

Fortnum & Mason, 181 Piccadilly, London W1 (0171-734 8040). 1lb pud is £4.95; 4lb monster including ceramic bowl is £18.95; 2ib vegetarian pud £8.50. Delivery £4-£4.50. Last orders 8 Dec.

Morel Bros, Cobbett and Son, Unit 7 129 Coldharbour Lane, London SE5 9NY (0171-346 0046). Bespoke Christmas pudding of the traditional variety, 900g £9.95. Last orders 18 Dec.

Traquair House, Innerleithen, Borders EH44 6PW (01896 830323). Ancient house and brewery produce its own spice cake: a light, bread-like mixture of treacle, spices and ale.

Meg Rivers Cakes, Middle Tysoe, Warwickshire (01295 688101). Bakery specialising in seasonal concoctions; Christmas cake is a

Charbonnel and Walker, 1 The Royal Arcade, 28 Old Bond St, London W1X 4BT (0171-491 (1939). Christmas boxes decorated with braid and lurex - all sizes from £8 for two to £230 for 10lb.

Norwood House Chocolate, Norwood Bottom Farm, Norwood Bottom, Otley, Yorks LS21 2RA (01423 3222230). The home of the Chocolate Society. Box of bittersweet chocolate nuts £12.50; handmade bon-bons £3.45 for four, £31.96 for 50.

Lightwater Village Gift Services, North Stainley, Ripon, N Yorks HG34 3HT (01765 635321). from £10.99 for a basket of red

Panzer's, 13-19 Circus Rd, St John's Wood NW8 6PB (0171-435 0165/0171-722 8596). Epicurean luxury, from the Paddington at £42 (includes smoked salmon, brandy butter, merlot, pretzels) to the aptly-named Hedonist at £205 (caviar, foie gras, champagne, you name it).

3.5

James and John Graham, Market Square, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 7BS (01768 862281). "Hampers without melon balls!" Rich, meaty and old-fashioned country delicacies. From £35 in a box to £320 in a wicker basket. Last orders 15 Dec.

Presents of Mind Ltd, Berwick Barns, Terling Hall, Hatfeld Peverel, Essex CM3 2EY (01245 381220). Wine selections and hampers strong on titbits and posh condiments from £25,90-£500. Hampers made to order with luxury items such as foie gras and caviar. Last orders 15 Dec.



bazaar

Bestsellers Top 10 reptiles at the International Pet Centre

The International Pet Centre, 360 Edgware Road, is London's oldest pet stop. It has a particularly good reptile collection, most of them bought by serious herpetologists. Costs escalate once you've bought the tank and the heating system (minimum £95 for both). Beginners are recommended to start with a

1 Com snakas	£35
2 California king snake	£65
3 Leopard gecko	
4 Horned frog	.£3 5
5 Garter snake	<u></u>
6 Whites tree frog	£25
7 Green iguana	
8 Homed frag	
9 Boa constrictor	£125
10 Carpet python	

Good thing Crown tea cosy, £14.95

This year we've had crown candlesticks, crown air fresheners, now a crown tea cosy. This would jolly up your breakfast table (along with the matching egg cosies, £3.95), or alternatively you could wear it is a warm winter hat. From the National Portrait Gallery's mail-order catalogue, full of things like Elizabeth. 1 Fruit Bonbons, and Lord Byron fridge magnets. To order, telephone: 0171-306 0055, extension 280 during work hours

Mad thing Shaving Fun Ken, £10

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We've had all those years of girl dolls that cry, vomit and wet themselves, now a boy doll that does something. Ken comes with shaving foam and razor, just spread the foam on his chin, wield the razor, and watch the beard disappear. Leave him at room temperature, and back it sprouts. Hours of fun for everyone except Ken. From good toyshops, or call Mattel for stockists (01724 798822)



Which ... Christmas fair?

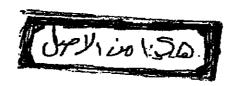
Suddenly there is a rush of Christmas fairs and sales, offering presents seriously more fun than those found in John Lewis sock department. Over the next weeks, Bazaar will list some of the best

This weekend: ALNWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND Crafts at Christmas All sorts of crafty gifts for sale at Ahrwick Castle, today and tomorrow, 10.30am-5pm. Admission £1.50. WHICHFORD, WARWICKS The Whichford Pottery is holding a special sule of its splendid terracotta pots. With daily demonstrations, and refreshments at weekends. At

Whichford, near Shipston-on-Stour (01608 684416).
Today to 3 December, 9am-5pm. MICHLING, SUSSEX A show of locally made pots. silverware, etchings, jewellery, quilts, kites, dolls and more. At Ditchling Village Hall and St Margaret's School, on the Lewes Road. Today and tomorrow, 10am-5pm. Admission 50p. Refreshments, too.

LONDON Dazzle Slightly more pricey work by 80 European jewellery designers, watchmakers, fabric designers, etc. costing from £20-£2,000. At the Royal National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1. From today to 6 January.

LONDON Christmas at St Christopher's Escape the Oxford Street crowds and choose from papier-maché Street crowds and choose from papier-macne sculptures, pottery, wood carvings, designer knitwear, hand-woven cushions, etc. At 30-31 St Christopher's Place, London W1. From 21 Nov to 23 December, 10.15am-6pm, Mon-Sun. Till 7pm on Thursdays.



None of that fancy stuff

Honest, unpretentious English country pottery has finally made it to the saleroom. By John Windsor

day, he could turn a ton of clay into pots. I timed him as he threw a lump of clay on to the wheel, pulled it high, then cut it off with wire: 22 seconds. In an hour, he could turn out 120 pots. In a day, 1,200.

Button's kiln, at Soil Hill, near Halifax, now lies cold and desolate. He died in 1969. But the 41minute video that records his dexterity had me on the edge of my seat. In his day, speed was essen-tial. Even before the packaging revolution, household pots and jugs made from clay were treated as disposables. They cost only a few pence. Craftsmen potters had to be quick to earn a living from poorly-paid villagers.

Unlike other mass-produced art, hand-thrown pots seem to time, during which he would climb look better the faster they are on to the hot kiln roof, even in turned out. The potter's skill improves with practice - yet there is no time for pretentiousness. Hence the charm of English country pottery made for cooking, baking, brewing, storing, growing seedlings or feeding chickens.

The founders of British 20th century studio pottery - Bernard Leach, Michael Cardew and the Japanese Shoji Hamada – sought out the few remaining English country potters and copied their techniques. But their debt to them is often overlooked and English country pottery remains largely out, wanting to know how much undiscovered. There are fewer than a dozen collectors, few textbooks and no national collection. By contrast, the Japanese prize our country pottery, as do American folk art enthusiasts.

On 29 November, the first private collection of English country pottery to come to auction is at Bonhams - 85 lots discovered over 20 years by the artist-designers Peter Highley and Ruth Scott-Walton in markets and shops, in particular where the last country potteries clung on: Cornwall, north Devon, Dorset and Yorkshire.

Mr Highley defined its appeal: The old country potters did not think of themselves as artists. But there is a purity and an honesty in their work that is sometimes missing from more refined contemporary studio ceramics."

By 1900 England had only 100 country potteries and by the end of the depression a mere dozen. There has been a pottery at Soil Hill since the 17th century. Before the war it employed 13 men. After that, Button could find no more apprentices and worked it

alone for 18 years. Most of the pots in the sale are "slipware", slip being creamy

saac Button was the last true ware was either dipped in it or English country potter. In a decorated with it. The country glaze was galena, toxic lead sulphide, now illegal, that gave potters "bellyache" if they pulverised it when dry.

There are some Victorian remnants from Soil Hill in the sale: three bulbous jugs with cream slip interiors are estimated £80-£140 the lot. At the turn of the century, few earthenware cooking utensils cost more than 7d - £1.60 today. In 1964, Button's 28th cider jars cost 28s - £14 today.

Button's strength and endurance were Herculean. The ton of clay he could pot in a day he dug himself from the hillside. Each firing of his 500 cubic foot kiln had to be stoked with two and half tons of coal at six firemouths. That kept him up for 48 hours or more at a

gales, to pull out test firings.
Once he had emptied the kiln he would begin barrowing to the wheel blocks of clay that he had processed: first blunged (mixed with water), sieved, dried on a stone floor heated by the kiln and twice pugged (compressed); all the time he smoked his pipe. Button did, somehow, find

leisure time, maintaining that he never left a pub on the same day that he entered it.

Bernard Leach, the father of British studio pottery, sought him grog (gritty bits) he added to the clay of his "bigware". The dry Yorkshireman told him: "I have enough trouble gettin' t' bloody stuff out wi'out puttin' it in."

Mr Highley's favourite country potteries are in north Devon, particularly Fremington, where, aged eight, Michael Cardew used to watch the white-bearded Edwin Beer Fishley bent over his wheel. Cardew was later taught to throw by Fishley's grandson, William Fishley Holland. But when he went up to Oxford his tutor told him he must choose between pots and Greats - an indication of the social chasm that existed in the Twenties between craftsmen and gentlemen artists.

Like Button, the Fishleys were 1,000-pots-a-day men. Leach was spellbound watching William put bandles on 200 mugs in just over an hour. Among five lots by grandfather Fishley is a scraffito jug with scroll handle and rhyme: est £180-£240. Three lots by grandson Fishley include a jug with scrif design: £60-£90 the lot.

with a bird in the sale, whose three impressed seals - MC, EC and Winchcombe - spell out the story white diluted clay. Red earthen- of how studio potters tried to bols. A big Bideford harvest jug



revive the country tradition. MC is Michael Cardew, who sliptrailed the image of the bird and EC is Elijah Comfort, the country potter who threw the dish. Comfort had spent 12 years as a farm labourer when Cardew persuaded him to return to the wheel at his old pottery at Winchcombe. Gloucestershire - restored from dereliction by Cardew in1926.

Cardew paid Comfort £2 a week about £58 today. The bird dish is estimated £1,500-£2,000 in the sale. There are two charming lidded honey pots of the Forties by Sidney Tustin, taken on as a boy to turn old Comfort's wheel: £50-£70 the pair. A magnificent Thirties flagon by Cardew with fish and plant design is £900-£1,400.

Many of the pieces are elaborately decorated wares celebrating significant events of country life -There is an oval dish decorated harvests, weddings, christenings part of a centuries-old folk-art tradition. Birds, hearts, flowers and butterflies were familiar symtery looks forward to a revival, prospects of re-firing Isaac But-ton's Soil Hill kiln look bleak. Protected by a security fence, the pottery is sited on valuable quarry stone. Old Isaac regarded as an enemy the local businessman who wanted to buy it, only to discover, having sold it upon retirement. that the purchaser was the same man. The Friends of Soil Hill have insisted upon enforcement of

the preservation order on it. As the rhyme on grandfather Fishley's scraffito jug says: "Long may you live, Happy may you be, Blest with content, And from misfortune free."

> Bonham's: 0171-584 9161. Copies of 'Isaac Button -Country Potter and other videos about potters: John Anderson, East View, The Green, Long Melford. Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9DU

round the circumference and a rough bottom. Modern pots have smooth surfaces and often raised seams left by the mould.

Lead-sulphide galena glaze gave old pots a jewel-like finish, unlike the glassy surface of modern glazes. Regulations limited the use of soluble lead in glazes in 1947. (For safety's sake, avoid drinking liquids that have been allowed to stand in leadglazed vessels).

Pots made by educated folk are more likely to bear a seal. Those 1.000-a-day men seldom bothered to decorate or sign. But the surest way to identify a pot is to discover its provenance.

Regional design variations can be learned. And the unglazed bottoms of pots are a give-away: Yorkshire clay is red and hard. North Devon clay is peachycoloured and buttery and more likely to have fingerprints.

Buy a piece of the Sixties

Forego High Street pastiche, Delta of Venus has the real thing. By Dominic Lutyens



Photograph: Steven Pollock

Tashion editors often -accompany retro fashion spreads with copy heralding a new look. Never mind the top-to-toe Jackie O outfits or perfect pastiches of Julie Christie make-up used to showcase this winter's look. What's important, we're told, is not to copy the old style but to give it a Nineties twist.

The beauty of second-hand shops like the newly opened Delta of Venus, is that they're Delta of Venus is a total Sixties and Seventies environment. Packed with period clothes, furniture, records and books, this huge shop opposite Euston's Laurence Corner, makes no apologies for its existence.

The team originally had a stall in London's Camden Market selling Sobr and Jones's old clothes. But such was their enthusiasm for Sixties and Seventies paraphernalia that they'd soon accumulated pieces of furniture, too, and the problem was getting everything to fit under one tarpaulin. We needed a shop to get out of the rain," says Free.

Emulating the atmosphere of Sixties and Seventies emporia such as Mr Freedom and Biba, Delta of Venus is painted in acid-pop shades. Its stock is arranged as haphazardly as a bazaar's, but deliberately so. "We wanted the shop to have warmth and character. And not to look yuppified or impersonal," Free explains.

Thanks to this winter's mod revival, the shop couldn't be more in vogue. So are its crew style opportunists? Or have the Sixties and Seventies always turned them on? Wildman's answer - a misty-eyed panegyric to watching T Rex on Top of the Pops as a kid - would be enough to convince anyone that he, at least, was born with a glittery spoon in his mouth.

Punters so far have included Boy George (who whipped in to buy a couple of shirts on his birthday) and a Channel 4 TV researcher who bought a chair for a forthcoming documentary on Joyce McKinney, the famous Seventies Mormon molester. Inevitably, teenage mods and modettes also flock to the

shop before going on to Sixties revival clubs like Lava Lounge and Venus Flytrap.

"We get fashion students looking for inspiration," Sobr says, and once Marks & Spencer came in for an original Sixties M&S shirt because

the company plans to bring out a Sixties line next spring."

The high quality of the clothes is a strong selling point. "The Sixties." says Jones, "were a borderline run by people who whole-heartedly embrace retro glamour. The brainwave of Chris Free, Leigh Wildman, Penny Sobr and Lydia Jones, Pelte of Venus is a total Six. garments are made by Jones from old patterns. She also takes inspiration from such Sixties glamourpusses as Marianne Faithfull and Anita Pallenberg. With its huge variety of groovy goodies could the shop perhaps do with a focus? "We specialise in the 1964-66 mod and glam rock eras," says Wildman, setting the record straight.

But to the untrained eye, Delta of Venus looks wildly eclectic: pairs of chic patent shoes recall Catherine Deneuve's bourgeois hooker look in Buñuel's film Belle de Jour, while silver space-age iewellery and orange fake nails scream Jane Fonda in Barbarella. Some of the clothes have nicknames: 'Dolly Spy' for a secret agent's trenchcoat, 'Kitty Scandal' for a frosty-pink brocade frock.

On walls and shelves are records, James Bond paperbacks, FAB 208 annuals and futuristic lamps. Everything is affordable and in great nick. A Seventies Braun table lighter in perfect working order will set you back £20 a snip compared with the £70 paid for an identical one at a recent Bonham's auction.

I asked the Delta of Venus stylonauts how they see themselves in 10 years' time. "We'll be King's Road fatcats," joshes Wildman. Free, meanwhile, fantasises about the shop having "a beauty salon where people could have their hair and make-up done before going out"

Imagine - a beauty parlour dedicated to creating Julie Christie peepers and Farrah Fawcett flicks. Wow!

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Delta of Venus, Mystic Maze, 151 Drummond Street. London NW1. Open Tuesday-Saturday, 10.30am-6pm.



AUCTIONS

most dotty Modern British artist? And how come he was actually French? Find out at Sotheby's on

Wednesday

mated the late, great ballet dancer's scuffed ballet slippers as low as £100 a pair. Those stamped "Mr R. Nureyev" have premium value: £1,000-£1,500 is expected. Costumes will cost you more at the two day sale, Monday-Tuesday scriptions have a voluptuous

Ou, too, can dress up as Rudolf Nureyev. Christie's has esti-

(10.30am daily). The catalogue deflavour; for £2,000-£4,000 "a bolero of raspberry pink shot silk" from his Basilio in *Don Quixote*. Basilio's tunic of black figured silk with built-in orange silk underblouse is estimated £3,000-£5,000. Just fancy, if Lucien Pissarro, son

Jof the renowned French pointilliste painter, had stayed in France, his painting of his brother, estimated £80,000-£120,000 at Sotheby's on Wednesday (11am) might bave had a tag of £500,000.

. As everyone knows, true pointillistes (painters of multi-coloured dots) were domiciled in France and were members of the foursome Seurat, Signac and Pissarro (père et fils) that caused such consternation at the 1886 Impressionist Exhibition.

It was actually the 22-year-old Lucien who introduced his father

Camille to Seurat, who had already started painting in little dots. But by 1890, with scant regard for tidy art market prejudices, young Lucien had abandoned dottiness and emigrated to Britain.

From then on he was regarded as a British artist, on both sides of the channel. His sparkling picture of his brother Georges, rediscovered and hitherto unpublished, appears in a Modern Brit sale, not an Impressionist sale. A second painting, of a garden path, painted in France in 1889 and with a hatching rather than dotting technique, anticipating his later style, is est £25,000-£35,000.

The Modern Brit market is going for safe names: Sickert, Bomberg. A run-of-the-mill Sicken is £35,000-£40,000. Lucien Pissarro is not a safe name. But he was a leading light in the Dotty Four, and, whatever his biographical eccentricities, his picture of his brother remains as vibrant as ever. Art snobs will miss a snip. Other Modern Brit sales:

Christie's, Tuesday (2pm), twinned with a dedicated Russell Flint sale (5pm). The two catalogues are joined by an othre-coloured paper cummerbund, clearly for the preservation of modesty.

The market is absorbing the large number of bird watercolours thrust upon it - just. Sotheby's is holding a second annual bird picture sale, Wednesday (10.30am), in which estimates for a second bunch of de-acquisitioned bird pictures from the Glenbow Museum, Calgary, Canada has been adjusted downwards. The first bunch was in last year's sale, which raised £493,000 with 36 per cent unsold. Also on Wednesday at Sotheby's (2.30pm); over 100 bird pictures by CF Tunnicliffe, being sold off by the RSPB. Few Canadians buy bird paintings. Thank goodness the British do.

ext week sees Sotheby's "The Book as Art" sale of modern illustrated books (Tuesday, 10_30am) and Christie's South Kensington's sale of optical toys (Thursday, 2pm). The estimates for the book sale are on a separate sheet - a hark-back to old times when one could read salcroom catalogues without being reminded of the distasteful subject of money.

> For auctions nationwide, see pages 16 and 17.

John Windsor

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Ballroom dancing, the bingo of Terpsichore, has long since achieved cult status on TV: the sequins, the Mr Whippy hair, the impasto make-up are competition for anything Lily Savage has come up with, and that's before you even look at the competitors. Everyone should spend one evening in a lifetime at a live

ballroom competition: like greyhound racing and eating snails, these things expand the horizons and boggle the mind. And where better than the bright lights of Blackpool? The Las Vegas of the North is currently playing host to its 21st annual dance festival, in which couples and teams rumba, foxtrot, waltz and chacha-cha their way round the floor of the legendary Winter Gardens, with only the world's stocks of spandex between them and freezing. It's so good to see people strive for excellence with only glory in mind. Church St, Blackpool (01253 25252) today

Six of the best: Purcell tercentenary events

The Fairy Queen Barbican, Silk St, London, 7.30pm tonight (0171-638 8891) Based on A Midsummer Night's Dream, Purcell's semi-opera is a series of exotic masques set in a magical world - the original stage directions called for swans dancing with fairies, huge fountains and peacocks. What this performance may lack in fantastical excess is more than made up for by the Sixteen Choir and Orchestra, Jeremy Sams's narrative and wonderful lighting and visual effects.

The Glory of the Temple and the Stage: Henry Purcell, 1659-1695 British Library, Gt Russell St, London WC1, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2.30-6pm; to 18 Feb, free A recently discovered volume containing keyboard music written in Purcell's own hand is the highlight of this exhibition which brings together all the composer's major autograph

manuscripts. The show also looks at the work of the professional music copyists and Purcell's collaboration with music publishers John and Henry Playford.

England, My England Cinema 1, Barbican Centre, Silk St, London EC2 (0171-638 8891) 2.30pm Sun, £6, £4 Special screening of Tony Palmer's new film about the life of Purcell, starring Simon Callow, Robert Stephens and Lucy Speed. Written by John Osborne, England, My England

focuses on Purcell's wilder years at the court of Charles II.

Orpheus Britannicus I St. Giles's Church, Cripplegate, London, 1pm today, 4pm Sun, £7/£4 (0171-638 8891) Today The Consort of Musieke will perform a selection of secular songs from Orpheus Britannicus I, the collection of Purcell's songs which was published in 1698. The programme includes "Lost is my quiet"; "No, no resistance is vain"; "Bacchus is power divine", and two solo pieces for lute and harpsichord. Tomorrow catch the Purcell Quartet and Tenor Rufus Muller.

Purceil 300 Westminster Abbey, London, 7pm Tue 21 Nov (simultaneous broadcast on BBC2 and Radio 3) Fairest Isle, Radio 3's year-long celebration of English music and culture, and BBC2's Purcell season both reach a climax. Purcell 300 includes the world premiere of Sir Michael Tippet's Caliban's Song, Britten's Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra, Handel's Zadok the Priest and of course a wide selection of Purcell's greatest hits.

Staging Purcell Today Theatre Museum, 1E Tavistock St. London WC2, 21 Nov-20 May. Tue-Sun 11am 7pm, last admission 6.30pm, £3, £1.50 concs Purcell's four semioperas and one through-sung opera are explored through the various productions which were staged this year as part of the anniversary celebrations.



INDEPENDENT WEEKEN

saint of music is a mystery. Martyred for fervent Christianity, she is in fact repuls nave turned her virgin ears from world. music by singing in her heart to God a: certain cult status in the musical work a rather obscure credit for having inven the organ. By the 16th century Rapha: was painting her, Palestrina composing

TO PERSON WHEN **建筑等于精神 99** ar bur 181 181 181 Market American **运业资料证据 管理等** 是在 1878 **等**图

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West End also outside Levalon
 APOLD 13 (PG) True story of the 1970 Apollo ■ STATE STA

BUTHAN FOREIGN (PG) Third instalment of the RIVERTARY (15) Mel Gibsun directs and stars. Odern Memanine, Leicenter Square 1240, 4.10, 7.40; Plaza 1215, 7.30, 11.00 (Sat) THE BRADGES OF MAINSON COUNTY (12) A photo-journalist has an affair with a kingly larmer? ournains has an array who a renery same of vide in lowe. Panton Street MGM 2,10,535, iSO: Warner West End 12noon, 245,530, 8.20, 11.00

BURNT BY THE SBN (15) A wife's ex-boyfriend returns. MGM Swiss Court 210, 6,00, 9,00 CARRENGTOR (18) A boheman artist gets closer to the man she loves by marrying his gay lower. Cura-in Phoenix 3.15, 5.45, 8.15; The Minema 6.15, 8.45

CASPER (PG) A little girl befriends a ghost. Trocaderu MGM 12.15, 230 CHINGING EXPRESS (12) Two intertainted sto-rus about leve-form policemen in Hong Kong, Razy Cuema 2.55 (Sun), 11.45 (Sat) + Tessuo II. The Body Haramay Off of LOST CHEDREN (15) A man kidnaps children to steal their dinams. MGM Swar Centre 1,55, 4,15, 6,40, 9,10

© CIBELESS (1.2) Teen movie satire. Fulliam Road MGM 1.40. 4.10. 9.30; Trocodero MGM 12.10, 2.20, 4.30. 6.50. 9.20; 12midnight; Plaza 1.45. 3.25; UCT Whateley 4.15, 0.35; 8.39; Warner West End 12.40, 2.50, 5.00, 7.20, 9.40, 11.50
GID FERR (15) A Japanese man drives across lockand to perform a bririal risual for his parents. Panton Street MCM 2.10, 7.10

CRISSON TIDE (15) Subtraurine thriller. Barbara Comena Sat 6.00, 8.40, San 5.20, 8.00, Baker Street MGM 1.10, 5.40, 6.05, 8.35. Chelson MGM 1.10, 5.40, 6.05, 8.35. Chelson MGM 1.10, 5.40, 6.05, 9.15, Noming Hill Convert 3.00, 6.00, 8.30, 11.00 (Sat):
Ollow High Street Ken 3.40, 6.35, 9.30, 12.55m (Sat), Olcon Lac Sq Sat 1.210, 2.55, 5.45, 8.40, 11.35; San 3.25, 6.31, 9.00, 5.90s Cottage Culeur 12.55, 3.40, 6.15, 9.00, 11.45 (Sat); CCI Whateleys 1.30, 4.20, 7.00, 9.30

GSM PRESPORTS (18) Riber Conena Sat 11.30 West End 12AU, 250, 510, 720, 9.40, 11.50

EB W000 (15) Johnny Depp stars. Raty Cor-ema Sun 2.15 + Living in Oblivion 4.25 BIGLARD MY BIGLARD Bartnean Cinema Sun 2.30 THE EXPREST (18) Classic hurror. Troppedent

IRE EUROCES (1817 Classic hurton: Trockatero MGM Sat L'Emishight FARRELLI (15) Buopic of an 18th century cas-trato singer, Burbara Caseron Sat 6,15, 8,40; Sun 3,00, 5,30, 8,00; Cueron Moryinir 1,30; (Sat), 3,20, 4,00, 8,20; Chelsen MGM 6,30, 9,25; Too Ca Rood MGM 1,50, 4,25, 7,30, 9,35 9.25; Toa C: Road MGM 1.50, 4.25, 700, 9.35 ROBET PMRS (12) Billy Crystal directs and stars, Odeon Mecanime 2.25, 6.25, 8.45 • FIERCH RSS (12) Romantic connedu. Chebra MGM 1.34, 1.35, 6.40, 9.30, 7m; rac-culero MGM 12.40, 3.40, 6.30, 9.10, 12mid-night (Satt; Odeon Haymarker 1.15, 3.40, 6.10, 8.35; Odeon Hayh Street Remarker 1.40, 4.20, 7.00, 9.40, 12.2 ham (Satt) Swiss Critique Colem 1.15, 4.00, n.40, 9.00, 11.50 (Satt); UCI Wintelwor 1.15, 3.20, 6.00, 8.20; Warner West End 1.50, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30, 12midnight

End 1.50, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30, 12midnight

■ La Marrie, (15) Departum of escalaring tension in a group of ethnically mixed teenagers, Gute Noting Hill 2.10, 4.30, 4.50, 9.10, 11.30 (Sa1); Lamiere 2.10, 4.20, 6.35, 8.50; Fullium Ruad MCM 1.40, 4.10, 7.10, 9.39; Ricty Cinema 2.10, 4.30, 6.50, 9.05, 11.20 (Sa1); Seriem on Buker Street 2.25, 4.30, 6.50, 9.10; Seriem on the Green 2.25, 4.30, 6.50, 9.10, 11.15 (Sat)

- = '

MOE (18) An immoral woman who victunises two men is suspected of murder. Empire Leiceser Square 1.45, 4.10, 6.25, 8.45, 11.45 (Sat): Trocadero MGM 4.40, 7.00, 9.25, 12midnight (Sat); UCI Whiteless 9.50 SER (18) An infant herr to the

throne is kidnepped and brought up in com-plete isolation. Piccadilly MGM 2.10, 5.10, 8.05 Deck Solution, Processing with a 2nd 2.1d, 6.25, 8.50; Som on Baker St 335, 6.15, 8.40 LYMM IN GBLIMON (15) A director endures a catastrophic day's (Biming, Chapham Fixture House 1.30, 4.45, 7.15, 9.30; Hapmanker MGM Sat 2.65, 4.50, 6.55, 9.20; Sam 1.25, 3.50, 6.15, 9.30; Panton Street MGM 2.10, 4.40, 7.15, 9.35; Odeon High Street Ken 2.30, 4.55, 7.20, 9.45, 12.10am (Sat); Rachmond Filmheuse 5.70, 5.30, 8.00; Rizer Cinema 1.50 (Sat), 4.25, 6.45, 9.00, 11,25 (Sat) + Ed Wood 1.40am pre MANESS on Fire Control (CAC) Alon Dec.

MORTAL DUBAT (15) Adaptation of the much-hyped computer game. Trocadero MGM 11.Stam, 2.10

THE FEM BRUE (15) A boy's grows up in the bible-thumping deep south. Renoir 2.40, 4.45. ● THE RET (12) Techno thriller. Odeon Mezza-nune 3,00, 6,00, 8,30

Page 300, 000, 120 High Gram stars. Fatter-ham Court Road MGM 1.55, 4.25, 7.10, 9.40; Odeon Murble Arch 1.15, 3.45, 6.15, 8.45; Swiss Cottage Odeon 6.45, 9.15 SWIS Contage Court 0.45, 74 Stack Ponther is asked to become a double agent for the American government. Trocadero MGM 12.05, 2.55, 505, 9.00, 12midnight (Satt; Plaza 6.01), 3.55, 11.15 (Sat); Plaza 6.01, 3.05 (Sat), 6.20, 9.00, 11.40 (Sat)

POCHIONIAS (U) New disney animation.

Chelses MGM 1235, 220, 4212 Odeon High Street Kenningon 1,30; Swiss Contage Orient 12,45, 3,30; UCI Whiteleys 12noon, 200; Warner West End 12,50, 2,40, 4,30 Warner West End 12-50, 2-60, 4-30

I. POSTRIO (U) A poet helps a postman to woo a beautiful bar mant. Metro 1-30, 4-00, 6-30, 9-00, Stufnesbury Avenue MGM 2-45, 5-35, 3-30, Ricey Consens 1-55 (San), 4-20 (San), 9-05: Severe on the Hill 4-05, 6-45, 9-10

RESERVOR BOSS (18) Violent thriller. Trocalers MGM San (Londinight

DE SCHOOL IN LETTER 15: 5-4 Portion Journ is

● INE SCARLET LETTER (15) A Paritan Lown is rocked by an actuliery scandal. Fulliam Rock © The SAMER LETTER (LS) or a most server or tocked by an adultery scandal. Fulliant Renal MGM (225, 320, 6.10, 900; Odeon High Street Kim (225, 325, 625, 925, 1225an (Sot); Swar Cottop: Odeon USB, 4.00, 6.45, 920, 11:45 (Sot); Odeon West End (2.15, 1.45, 3.15, 5.34, 6.30, 1825, 11:45 (Sot); UCI White-417 12.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15

Ary 1.2.15, 3.15, 6.15, 9.15

IN SEPARATION (PG) A couple go through the traumas of a trial separation. MGM Swiss Course 2.00, 3.55, 5.50, 7.50, 9.50

THE SORBO F MUSIC (U) Classic stassical romp. Plans 3.45

SPECIES (18) Science fiction (briller. Empire Lete Space 1.15, 3.40, 6.05, 8.35, 11.40 (Sat) expounated network for the property of the prope NING DESIRE: THREE FILMS BY HAL HARTLEY (15) Short films by the Trust man. Rice Con-ens Son 1.30, 4.40 ⊕ TO DE FIR (15) An aspiring TV star enlists the help of a teenager to murder her hus-band. Classes MGM 1.40, 4.15, n.40, 9.20;

norbet MGM Sat 1.30, 4.05, 6.40, 9.15; Haymarket MGM Sat 1.30, 4.05, 6.40, 4.15.
Sun 2.15, 5.20, 8.25. Ton Cr Rd MGM 1.40,
4.05, 1.55, 9.25; Odean High Sover Ken 2.10,
4.55, 7.20, 9.45, 12.20am (Sats: Odean Mecanine 2.55, 6.15, 9.40; Swiss Cottage Odean
1.00, 4.10, 6.50, 9.20, 11.50 (Sats: Racy Conema 7.00; UCI Whateless 1.55, 4.25, 6.35, 9.25,
Warner West End 1.10, 3.30, 5.50, 8.30, 11.10
There West End 1.10, 3.30, 5.50, 8.30, 11.10 © 1080 Bit (PG) Comedy about a wrangle for ownership of a family business. Treathers MCM 1220, 2-40, 4-55, 7-10; Plans 12.15, 225, 435, 645, 845, 11.30 (Satt), I-CV Bibliology (230, 250, 5.10, 7.30) ● 10 WORG FOO (PG) Three drag queens drive across America. Clapham Picture House 2:00, 4:30, 6:45, 9:15; Balser Servet MGM 12:5, 3:50, 6:10, 8:40; Fullum Road MGM 1:40, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15; Sun 1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35; Pictur 1:30, 3:45, 6:10, 8:35; Pictur 1:30, 3:50, 6:15, 8:35; 11:20 (Satt); UCI Whiteleys 1:25, 3:50, 6:30, 9:05; Warner West End 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:90, 11:20 1.20, 3.50, 6.20, 8.50, 11.20

● IRBER SESE 2. DMR EPRITORT (18) Steven Scagal sees action again as a navy cook/com-mando. Trocodero MGM 4.35, 7.10, 9.25, 12mkhight; Warner West End 1.40, 4.00, 6.30, 9.10, 11.30

9.10, 11.30

THE BEBLA SISPECIS (18) Five known felous plan another crume whilst in police custody. Full-int Road MGM 1.40, 4.10, 6.45, 9.26. Funtan Saves MGM 2.64, 4.30, 7.00, 9.25; B'arner B'est End 6.35, 9.20, 12midinght Warner West End 6.35. 9.31, 1.2midnight

● AWMA IN THE \$\tilde{\text{LOBDS}}\$ (PG) A dejected world

war two veteran falls in lose with the daughter of a vineyard owner. Trocustero MGM Sat
11.55am, 2.15, 4.35, 7.00, 9.30. Odeon High

Storet Kerningson 2.05, 4.35, 7.05, 9.35,
12.05am (Sat): UCT Whiteleys 11.2ham, 1.40,
4.00, 6.25, 9.00. Werner West End 2.00, 4.20,
6.40, 9.00, 11.35

6.40, 9.00, 11.35 6.40, 9.00, 11.35
• WHEN RESHI IS FALLING (19) A Christian academic is sechaced by a flamboyant circus perforater, Clapham Picture House 2.45 (5.4), 5.00, 7.00, 9.00; Mero 2.00, 4.15, 6.30, 8.45; Piczadilly 34GM 1.30, 3.45, 6.10, 8.40; Racy Carena 2.00, 4.10, 6.25, 8.50 WHILE YOU WERE SLEEPING (PG) Sandra Bullock

THE WILD SHIRCH (18) 1969 classic. Shafteshary Avenue MGM 200, 5.05. 8.10 THE YORK PURSUEER'S HANDBOOK (18) A 14-year-old poisons his family one by one. Panton Street MGM 4.30, 9.30

phone munbers 0171 empt where noted Barbican Cinema 638 8891; Chelson Cinema Barbian Cinema 638 8997. Cobesa Cinema 361 3747. Caphan Picture He 498 3333. Carana Mayfalf 369 1729. Carana Phrema 369 1721. Curren West End 369 1722. Empire Leic Sq. 6990. 588997. Cade Nort Hill 727 4043. Luminer 379 3014. Vietno 47. 1757. Baker St MGM 925 9772. Chelsea MGM 352 3090; Fullum Rd MGM 8181-709 6011. Haymarket MGM 925 1873. Bacter St. MCM 900 6811. Folkum Rd MGM (181-970 0011; Haymarket MGM 839 1527; Panton St MGM 939 0031; Piec MGM 437 356; Shaffasbary Are MGM 836 6279; MGM 8viss Centre 4:7: 259c Tort C Rd MGM 636 6148; Trocaderon MGM 434 003; The Mineras 235 4225; Non Hall Coroset 727 6/03; Odeon Haymarket 8:97 7697; Odeon Hajb St Ren of 1426-914606; Odeon Leic Sq 930 1232; Odeon Marthe Arch 01426-914501; Odeon Measurinet 0152-915683; Swiss Cost Odeon 01425-914903; Odeon West End 930 523; Piana 0990-889904; Ramor 837 8402; Richmond Fämhouse 0151-312 0034; Ricy Cincenn 737 2121; Sern on Baker St 935 772; Socien on the Gra 126 523; Sern on the Hill 405 336c; UCI Whiteleys 0990-889909; Warner West End 437 4341

repertory cinemas TEPER BLY CHERIAS

(0171-435 1525)

Eyes Without A Fact (18) Sun Ipm + La

Ferome Infidele (15) Sun 2-dipm Institute

Benjementa (15) Sut 2-dipm Institute

Benjementa (15) Sut Sun 2-30pm (nor Sun).

3-dipm. opm + The Immortal Suny (18)

SutSun 4-dipm. 7-50pm

EX CREM The Mail SW1 (0171-90 3-647)

EX CREM The Mail SW1 (0171-90 3-647)

EL CREME The Mark SWI (0171-93) 30-77
TI Be Your Martur Sat 6.30pm, 8.30pm
1,00000 Fills FESTING, Various venues WI
(0171-928-323)
Clauses Langlois 2 v 50 Years Of French Caccus Sat Ham (NFT)) Hildragaroloi Bohu
Donn (18's A Long Way To the Seas Sat 2pm
(NFT)) New Britash Shorts Sat 4.15pm
(NFT) Interview - Sir John Milks Sat 7pm
(NFT) It Franc Sat 8.30pm (Martur Ciromes) Fur Deb Les Nances (Beyond The COUZY FOR YOU ema) Par Dela Les Nanges (Beyond The Clouds) Sat 9pm (NFT1) Comedy & An tion Sun Hum (NFT1) Pers Was A Women Sun (24/Spre (NFT1) A Walk On The Wild

Side Sun 2.30pm (NFT1) Wild bill: A Holly-wood Mayerick Sun 4.15pm (NFT1) Les Rendez-Vous De Paris (Rendez-Vous In Paris) Sun 6.30pm (NFT1) Casino Sun Paris) Stan 6.30pm (NFT1) Cossno Stan
7.30pm (Empire Leic Sq)
PROBERT High Road NJ. (9181-883-2233)
Rudyard Kapling's The Jungle Book (PG) Sar
Ham Land & Freedom (15) Sat 2.20pm,
4.35pm, Paris, San 4.15pm, 6.35pm,
8.50pm Before Stantise (15) San 1.15pm,
6.70pm Before Stantise (15) San 1.15pm Muriel's
Before Stantise (15) Sat 1.15pm Muriel's
Wedding (15) Sat 3.30pm Waterworld (12)
Sat 5.45pm Encliess Winter Sat 8.30pm Pulp
Fiction (18) Sat 10 45pm Circle Of Friends
(15) San 3.30pm Circle Of Friends
(15) San 3.30pm Circle Of Friends
(15) San 1.30pm Circle Of Friends
(15) San 1.30pm Circle Of Friends
(15) San 1.50pm Circle Of Friends Sun 8 45pm 800 Kingshaud High St ER (0171-254 6677)

> CINEMA RYAN GILBEY

Crimson Tide Being locked in a submarine for two hours with Denzel Washington is nobody's idea of scintillating cinema, but chuck in a grizzled Gene Hackman, and the threat of a nuclear war to heat things up even more, and you've got one of the thrillers of the year.

9580 GBETT Richard Harris' thriller. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 SJB) & Poc Care, Mon-Fri 8,00, Su 5,00 & 8,15, [5] 3,00, ends 6 Jun, 68-629

0017 BESS FOR OWNER

Royce Mills stars in the French farue.

Duchess Catherine St (0171-474 5075)

GOOT Oldn. Mon-Fri 3,00, Sat 5,00 & 8,31,

[4] 3,00, 28-£18.50. Maunes — [1] Sun, [3]: The, [4]: West, [5]: Thu, [6]: Fn, [7]: Sat Willy Russell's long-running musical.

Phoenic Charing Cross Rd (0171-369 1733)

© Tott Ct Rd, Mon-Sat 7.45, [5] 3.00, [7] 4.00,

09.90-67.50.

FINE THE MESCAL Stage musical by David de Silva. Construige Earthurn St., WCZ (0171-494 5080) © Covt Cula. Mon-Sar 7.30, [4][7] 3.00, £10-CS. BUDDY
Musical hiog of Buddy Holls.
Smand Aldwych, WC2 (017) -930 8500) & Covt
Gda. Tue-Thu 870, Fri 5 30 & 8 30, Sai 5 10 &
8 30, [1] 4 10 , 59 - 528 50. Clarke Peters Tively musical.

Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (017)-369
1730'er 867 (111) ⊕ Lee: Sq. Mon-Thu 8.00.
Fri & Sai 6.00 & 8.45, £5-£28.

FEMORY MONEY

STORMER STATE
Devid Green Vetady US military critique.
Ambiessadors West Street, WCT (0171-836
of 1719 © Lee Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30,
[4][7] 3.00, £14.50-£22-50. Paris auto, Ray Corney's latest camedy.

Plantouse Northamberland Avenue, WC?

[0171-839-4401] © Embankment, Mon-Sat

840, [5] 3-00, [7] 5.00, \$5-\$26. THE CARRIET OF DOLLTOR CALIFORN 800, pp o way promoted Brighnuse's compedy. Len McKern in Hamid Brighnuse's compedy. Line Staffesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) © Pice Cire, Mon-Sat 7.30, [7] 3.00, ends Matthew Kelly in the borror classic. Lyne Hammermath King Steett, W6 (0181-741 2311) © Hammermath Kong Steet, W6 (0181-741 2311) © Hammermath, Mon Sat 7.30, mat 2 Dec. 2.30, ends 2 Dec. Mon £5, then £7,53-£15, standby cones,

Musical version of TS Elect's poems. New London Drusy Lane, WC2 (0) 71-405 0072cc 404 4079) & Covent Garden, Histo Mon-Sat 7 45, [3] [7] 340, £10 50-£20 Harold Pinter stars with Cella Imrie. Cannafr Punten Street, SW (10171-369 1731) © Prot Circ/Leie Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45, [5] 3.00, [7] 4.00, ends 2 Dec. £10-£22-50 THE UPPORTMAKE OF BESING EMPLOYST CONGREGATING DOORS
Julia McKenthe in Alan Ayekhouro's evanedy. 100th anniversity production. Old I is Waterloo Road, SEI (0171-928 7616) BR/-Ø Waterloo. Mon-Sai 7-30, [4][7] 3.00, ends 18 Nov. £6-£72. Girland Statesbury Ave (494 5165) @ Pic Circ. Mon-Set 7.31. [4][7] 3.00, 28.50-224.

100 kangsanai riigh St ES (1171-23 6577) Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (PG) Sat Ham L'Enfer (15) Sat.Star 2 30pm + La Sep-munion (PG) Sat.Star 4 25pm To Die For (15) Sat.Star 6, 10pm, 2-70pm Bai Boy Babby (18) A Lus Down Dirty Shame (18) Sat 11.15pm

Olisi 1-31 (225)
Araban Nights I il81 Sat 4.30pm + Decameron (18) Sat 6.45pm + The Camerbury Tales (18) Sat 8.50pm Sweeths (15) Sat 3pm + The Heard the Mennards Singing (15) Sat 4pm + Arapon De Nice (PG) Sat 5.5m 6.8pm + Zero de Condunte (PG) Sat 7.5pm + Urallante Sat 8.50pm Table (U) 7pm Matternards MTS (EMIE High Street, Brentford TW8 (0181-568 1176)
Deartals (PG) Sat 1.30pm Burnt By the San 1(15) Sat 6.8pm; Sat 8.45pm The Neon Bible (15) Sat 9.8pm; Sat 7.5pm Cyraine De Bergeroe (U) San 2.45pm + Le Colonel Chalbert (PG) Sat 5.5m 5pm Cyraine De Bergeroe (U) San 2.45pm + Le Colonel Chalbert (PG) Sat 55m 5pm

theatre

West End

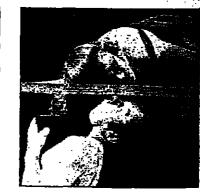
11.15pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA Crisp Road Wo (0181-241 2255)

MOUNT THE Turn Stoom Gershwin musical spectacular. Gershwin musical spectacular. Proce Edward Old Compton Sc(0171-734 8951) & Tott O. Rd. Mon-Sat 7-45, [7] 3-00, £11.50-£30. BEID FIRMT Belinds Lang and Keven McNally star. Search Strand, WCZ (017)-826 1888/Per Also 0479 O Channg X Embankment, Mon-Fri 8.04, Sat 8.15. [4] 2-91. [7] 5.03, CU-CZ-50. AN INSPECTOR CULLS Acclaimed production of Priestley's Ihriller Garnol Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-44 5085) © Lea: Sq. Mon-Pn 7.45, Sat 8.15, [4] 2.30, [7] 500, ends 6 Jan, [9423450.



ART IAIN GALE

Art and Power Beautifully designed, if somewhat over-curated, this exhibition seeks to lay bare the cultural arrogance of the totalitarian nations - Germany, Italy and Russia - in the crucial years between 1930 and 1945. A sobering and timely display. Hayward Gallery, London



THEATRE DAVID BENEDICT

Desire Under the Elms 70 years ago, a Los Angeles theatre company was arrested for performing this Eugene O'Neill tragedy. Shared Experience emphasise the sensuality lurking beneath the surface in a similar manner to their recent hit, The Mill on the Floss. Tonight, Oxford Playhouse

The Pa.

Son Of Man Demons Potter's portrayal of Christ
as a man of the people Today 2 100 & 7.15

Barbaan. In-123. The Pit £10-11n Barbaan
Centre, £C2 (0171-658 8891) ⊕ Barbaan. OLIVER Jim Dale stars as Fagin. London Palladuan Argell St (0171-494 5020) ◆ Out Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30 [4][7] 2.30 £10-£30.

THE PHARTING OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Graphe musical. Her Majesty's Haymarket (0171-144 \$400) © Pice Circ. Mon-Sat 7,45, [487] 300, £9-£30. PRESONS CELL BLOCK I Musical puncify of the cult TV series. Quern's Staffesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-194 S140) & Proc Circ, Musi-Thus 8:00, Fri de Sat tall & 8:45, ends 13 Jan, 87-59-124.

ROTH THE SOUL

RON HUICHUNSON'S Publical Irish drama.

Duke of York SS Martin's Lane, WCZ (017)83.65 [22] P. Lee Sq Charing X. Shop-Sar

7.30, [5][7] 3.00, ends 18 Nov., £5-£22-\$9)

Me nor openson story Me and work.

Market Calebrating his life and work.

Whatchad Whitched, SW 10171-360 1735)

BRVO Charting X. Tue-Thu K.O., Fri & Sat 5.30 & R.M. [1] 4-JD, ends 18 Feb. L6-E25 ROPERT STREET LOWELY REARTS CLUB
Assentian Harvey Silvertperform love stary,
Dommer Earthum St (0) 71-359 1732) 40 Lefe Sa.
Mon-Sat S/01 [5]77 4/01, ends 25 Nov. £12-£18. STARO REAT EXPRESS

amanuff Enritess
Lingd Webber's high-tech ruler-musical
Apollo I Enrom Witten Road, SW1 (0171-11)
http://doi.org/10.1006/97.17.45.[3][7]
3.00, 112-50-630. SOMESET BUTLEWARD

Adelpin Strand, WC2 (017) -341 (055) © Char X. Mon-Sat 7.45, [5][7] 370, £15-£32-50. TAKING SIDES A conductor is tarred by Nazism.

Criterian Piec Circ. (01.71-349 17.47) ⊕ Piece
Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30, [4¶7] 2.30, (7-£2.50)

THERE TALL WOMEN
Edward Affree's acclaimed drisma.
NewAthern's Charing X Rd (017)-349 (73b)

— Loc Sq. Tue-Soi 830, [4][7] 3.00, ends 16
Dec, \$9.5(4.25) THAT YEAT RESIDE With their man measure.

Robert Both's epic historical drams.

Mermaid Proidle Duck, EC4 (0171-25 221)

BR-O Blackfriars, Tue-Sat 7.30, [4] 2.01, [7] 3.01

ends 25 Nov. £11.50-£18.50, comes available. William Royal Extraory
Examination of procure State (1977)
Framination of procure State (1977)
17-35) © States Sq. Mon-Sat 7-9, [47,330, ends 18 New, 25-110, owns available. TOWAY STEELE - YEART A SHOW?

Spectacular with a 22-turing company.

Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (III.71-839
5972) 9 Lese St-Pice Circ. Mon-Sar 8.00. [4]
3.00, [7] 5.00, ends 6 Jan, £12_50-£25. THE WOMAN IN BLACK IRL William in union Susan Halfs chilling phony story. Formur Russell St (U171-XX-2238) 49 Holbort-Mon-Sat 800, [3] 3.00, [7] 4 00, 28,50-29 Beyond the West End

MCHEY EMPRE

Tog Law Warren Mitchell leads Jude Kelly's
production. Tue-Sar 7.34 pm (15 Nov. 7 pm).
San open, mars Wed 2 pm, ends 3 Dec. 2.542.17.30, coms would be. Mare Street, EN (018) [
985 24724) BR: Hackney Central.

PROTECT HEATING

Desira Under The Burs See Critic's Chance. [1992]

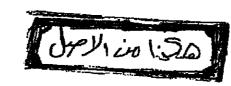
21 Nov. Mora-Sat Spun [22] Nov. 7pun, mars Sat
4pm. to Dec. 27,241,213.

cones a salable, Mon & mat Sat pay what your

cone. Salamn High Road. NW/1(1) 71,723.

3000 O Kalburn.

<u>Bristol</u> MERS FRARS, ABOVE REGISTER OFFICE In Martier Peter Nichols' new black een the 1900s. Alva-Wed Kynn, Thu-Sat 7



brian Conley as the Twenties enterminer.
Victoria Pulsce Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/© Victoria, Mun-Sat 7.30, [487] 3.00, £12.50-£30.

Its INSTRUMES
Musical of Vertor Hugge's musterpace.
Palace Shatherbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434
0909) © Prec Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30, [5]] 71 2.30, 17-120.

waa e muca. kerny Hernan's romantic musacal. Pecashily Dengan Street, W1 (0171-369 1734/cc 867 1111) ⊕ Picc Circ, Mun-Sat 7.45,

The transity suggests Alan Bates in Posen.

Theatre Royal Haymarker, SW1 (0171-930 S800) ◆ Pice Circ Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00, ends 6 Jan, £ (0-£26.

Agatha Christie's whodunnit. St Manin's West St (0171-336 1443) & Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8.00, [3] 2.45, [7] 5.00, 18-22.

Offerer: A Little Right Music Secur Mathias' production of Sondheim's musical. Today 200 & 7.15

Lyttelk ve Wid that Anton Lesser in Jeremy Sams' pro-duction of John O'Keelfe's 18th century com-chy. Today 2.15 & 7.30

Controlor Return I Fiona Shaw stars as the king, Today

Olivier & Lyttelton: 17.5(1-172-9) Conesine: 110-114-50, Day seats from 10km, South Bank, SEI (0171-928-2252) BR/G Waterloo.

The Burbican: APatiet for the The RSC's first production of a John Osburne play. Today 2 (II & 7.15)

Madam Buttertly reset in Vietnam Theare Resul, Draw Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-493 5000) © Covert Garden, Mon-Sai 7.45, [4][7] 3.00, £8.50-£30,

STEAL MATRONAL THEATHE

ROYAL SHIMESPEARE COMPAINT:

WALKS MARKEL

MIZZ 27/60H

[+||7||3.80, £17.50-£32.50.

THE MUSTER BUILDING

Around the country

in the 1960s. More Wed Yorn, Thu-Sat 7.30pm. mat 14 Nov. John, ends 25 Nov. E6.50-E7, com/

going out

15ME

Piper calls the tune

Unicom Arts Theatre has given the story of The Pied Piper a thoroughly modern twist. Amid a rainbowcoloured set, depicting cock-eyed medieval houses, a group of holiday-makers arrives to find a tourist trade cover-up. Yes... their holiday destination is infested with rats. The pipe gets handed to a boy with the vision to see through the sleaze. And you can guess the rest. This is not an "its behind you!" pantomime but a family Christmas show in the style of a Gilbert and Sullivan

operetta, with music updated by Joanna MacGregor. Meanwhile at London's Polka Theatre for Children, the story of Oona, an Irish Cinderella, also promises new twists on another familiar theme. The Starlight Cloak is set to Irish music with dance. Prince Charming is now the young Prince of Ulster. Pied Piper, Unicom Arts Theatre, London WC2 (0171-836 3334) to 21 Jan; Starlight Cloak, Polka Theatre, London SW19 (0181-543 4888) to 3 Feb

What's mew, pussy cat?

Crufts is all very well, but there's no getting away from the fact that it's full of dogs. Imagine swapping all those dogs for cats - imagine, indeed, the NEC full of the lazily gorgeous things - and you may well imagine you've gone to heaven. But heaven (as Belinda Carlisle so rightly noted) is a place on earth, with the Supreme Cat Show making its 20th appearance today. More than 250 champions will be competing in various catty categories, and you can pick up reams of information on breeds, learn how to groom a Persian, or bone up on the new standard of points for bi-colour cats. Pedigrees don't hog the limelight entirely: your humble moggy is just as good as the most perfect Abyssinian, and so there are special non-pedigree awards as well. The show is run by The Governing Council of the Cat Fancy, a national body for felines founded in 1910 to protect the interests of all British cats. Listen carefully, and you can hear the sound of two paws clapping. NEC, Birmingham (0121-780 4133) today 10.30am-5.30pm, £5/£3

Socialism lives... in Sheffield The power of music and song in struggles for equality and justice is being celebrated this weekend in Sheffield, with a festival entitled Raise Your

Banners!, organised by Sheffield Socialist Choir. It coincides with the 80th anniversary of the death of Joe Hill (catchphrase: "Don't mourn organise"), a Swedish-American member of the International Workers of the World, who popularised protest singing in the English-speaking world and was executed on trumped-up murder charges in Salt Lake City in 1915. But the festival - which counts among its patrons such figures as Tony Benn MP - isn't about nostalgia for the great names of the past, rejoicing as it does in the participation of such modern-day legends as Labi Siffre, who appears tonight at City Hall (8.30pm) together with Abdul Tee-Jay's Rokoto and the Ju Ju World Music Disco. Among the numerous other attractions will be Attila the Stockbroker riffing on themes such as "Long Live the Zen Stalinist International!" (today 12.30pm at the Lescar, Sharrowvale Rd); showings of Ken Loach's Spanish Civil War film Land and Freedom, left (today 3pm & Sun 6pm, The Showroom); a forum entitled "What is Political Song?" chaired by Robin Denselow (today 4.15pm, Hallam University); and a workshop in Appalachian clog-dancing (today 10am, Hallam University). The streets will be filled with choirs throughout the weekend, and Sheffield will be one of the few public places you can take your beaten-up old acoustic guitar along to, and not be scowled upon as a relic of the hippy underclass. Who knows - you might even be invited to join in the fun.

Full info (0114 253 4453)

pationers' Hali, Ave Maria Lane, London C4 (0171-589 2425) concerts 7pm thoice

ere and St Cecilia societies were founded in

Representation and Rome: Over 300 years since Lon-

Attion's first St Orolla's Day concert, she will

the conight until Thursday. There's feasting,

Bestsoven, Haydn and jazz,

through not an ore to St. Cecilia in signit.



ROCK ANGELA LEWIS

The Charlatans Once upon a time hey were the runts of the late Eightes "baggy" scene. Now, five years on, they've secured a number one ictory with album The Charlatans. Support comes from budding Manc ock popsters Northern Uproar and Mansun. Tonight, Broaton Academy

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THEATRE

thing

ROYN, COLLEGE OF ART An American Passine: The Sesses & Robert Susmen Calledine Work by Bounberg, Sickert and Kossoff. Mon-Sum (Ogon-Spon, ends 3 Dec, free. Kensington Gore (017)-924 SUM) & South Ken.

OUESALISTY
The feniar Prize 1885 Edillation Monn Histourn,
Danien Hirst, Callium Innest and Mark
Waltinger, Mon-Sun (Darn-S-Stpm, ends 3 Dec,
free; Müllbank (0171-887 8000) & Pimilico. January page inclines
Castar Peter Hall directs Christopher
amin. In rep. today 1.30pm 2.7.30pm 26standing 14.50-25, cours available.
**side (01789-395623) Oxford_

nerry Orderd Chekhov's masterly last work. p. today 1.30pm & 7.30pm £50-£28.50, s available. Waterside (01789-2956.23)

RESENT THEATHER
Seisers Mars Statfoord-Clark's production.
87 2-30pm. £6.50-£9.50, comes available.
88th Oley Tember lake Wertenhalter's
E. Tonight Spm. £0.50-£9.50, comes
able. Union Place (01913-235333)

House The Bos See Critic's Choice. Today

m & 7,30pm, £5-£14, comes (** mont Super (**)1865-7986(**)

itiord-upon-Avon

CHARPSPEARE THEATRE

chibitions testone

White parts course syctem. Figure Brandags 10 year spective. Mon-Sat (dam-lipun, 2-30 pm-ands 26 Nov. free: The Leas (01303-

d Power: Europe emier the dictators 1938-1945 **JUST CALLEST!** @Power: Europe and in the Control of the Choice. Mon-Sun 10am-topm altipun Tue & Word), ends 21 Jan. 25, concs 1 Behvedere Roud, SE1 (0171-00) 4242)

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CLASSICAL ROBERT MAYCOCK

The world's viola players have artistic direction of Nobuko Imai, classes running all weekend. Wigmore Hall, London WI

> London Percal Genetal Songs and trio sonates by Purcell.
> Sun 4pm. £7, comes £4, (017)-638 8891)
>
>
> Mooneste.

Lordon Saloniana/Benjamin Including Benjamin's Three Inventions for Chamber Orcheston Varees's Jacquales and Messiaen's Observe

Exotines. Tonight 7.45pm. E6-£10. South Bank Centre, SEI (0171-9604242) BR/& Waterloo.

NICATORS HALL
Thomas High! See Critic's Choice. Tonight

<u>Swindon</u>

dance

Bath

Cardiff

ENTEATE

THE NAME OF THE PARTY OF THE PA

7.30pm £6.£14. The limited that See Critic's Choice, Sun 5pm.£6-£14. Wigmore St.(0171-935 £141) ↔ Bond St.

wytern Heildt.
Son manoch Symphony Brohestra/Barga Brohms'
And Pisno Concerto, with Beethoven's 6th
Swaphony (Pastoral) Tonight 7.30pm. £9-£13.
Theatre Square (01793-524481)

hat Thereton The Breates Charcost and

Resider State Company, Revolet/Statescon/States Baster Choreography by Christopher Bruce and Mark Baldwin, Tonight 7:30pm, 16-E14-50, copes 16-E12-50, Pork Place (B1222-878889)

ST SHEPS
Irism Grahastra/Stalt Dvorsic's 7th Symphony
with Elgar's Cello Concerto. Tonight 7:30pm.
65:50-£12.
lesian Sagart/Salar Howells, Holst, Grainger,
Musgrave and salar choral musics. San
7:30pm. 16:£10. Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222
1061) & Westminster. 106!) & Wester #4.1 CHECK & DISCH #4.1

USAND OF MINISTERS MIT Louis Rougasis: Scalainer Work during from the 1940s. The-San Ham-dpm. (The until 9pm). Sarl 3pm-dpm, ends 31 Dec. 22-50, cones 11-80, free Wed Ham-1pm, Tau dpm-9pm. Penbroke St (01865-722733)

comedy B<u>eistol</u>

HART HILL AT BRESTOL OLD MC Sen Spra, King Screet (0117-987 7877) Lendon EDIE CZNED AT THE SHAFTESMEN THEATRE Thright 8pm, Sun 7.30pm, Shaftesbury Ave (#71-379 5399) © Holborn, 16-£17-50. PROTHON SS ATHER MAISTYS THESING In Spin, Haymarket (0171-494 5400) Piccodity Circus, £7.50-£25.

edhill LIAN CLART AT MARLECHEN THEATRE an 7. Open, Warwick Quadrant (01737-45547), 19.50-1 (0.50. classical

London Newset Players/Baseert With the Bath Festival Chorus in Mozart's Great Mass in C minor, plus his Jupiter Symphon 7,30pm, £6-£20, (01225-463362)

emerged from the shadows to take over the Wigmore Hall. Under the the International Hindemith Viola Festival has star recitals and master-

DANCE LOUISE LEVENE

> Matthew Bourne's witty rethink of Swan Lake. The thin choreography is performed with gusto by the corps of male swans and showcases the talents of Royal Ballet truant Adam Cooper and ex-Royal Ballerma Fiona Chadwick. Scott Ambler stars as the Prince. Sadler's Wells, London

> > <u>Chichester</u> CHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Conton City Balleth Sate Mined bill including Graduation Ball and Act II of Swan Lake. Today 2:30pm & 7:30pm. £9.50-£18, cones available. Oaklands Park (01243-781312)

London STEMS FEETENS

starts in Motion Pictures: Susa Lake See Critic's Choice. Today 2-30pm & 7.30pm .15-£27.50, cones uvallable. Roschery Avenue, EC7 (0171-278.8916) & Angel. opera

London BASEGAN BALL
The Fairy Genes Purcell, with Jeremy Sams
narration, Tought 7.30pm, E7-E5.
Biodestia Given by the Academy of Anciem
Music under Christopher Hogwood, Sun
7.30pm, E7-E25. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891) @ Moorgale/Barbican. NAMES OF TAXABLE PARTY. ENO: The Surter of Series Jonathan Miller's

original staging of Rossmi, Tonight 7,30pm. 68-650. St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 6300) O Leicester Square/Charing Cross. Charles Opera Great: Tambascer Concert
performance of Wagner's opera. Sun 6pm.
£10-£25. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960

pop Colchester

COIGHESUSI
The Cheshtans See Critic's Choice. Essex University Theatre Wivenhoe Park (01:206-(73261) Tonight 7.30pm, 19. <u>London</u> Composition Former Subbath mam, Britain Academy Stockwell Road SW9 (0171-924 9999) BR/& Britann. Tenight 7pm, £14.

Ray Basins Solo versions of Kinks classics.
Willesden Empire Church Road NW10 (0181-459 8902) & Neasden. Tonight 7pm, £10.

brated US Country singer. The Hexagor Ousens Walk (01734-591591) Sunday 7 Wom. £12 50-£14.50. jazz, world, folk etc

LONGOR Stanley Carte/N D. Neole/Jean-Luc Posty Fusion. masters play unplugged. Royal Featural Hall South Bank Centre (0171-960 4342) & Water lon, Tonight 7:30pm, £12:50-£17:50. Wayne Shorter Scripentine modern pazz legend. Royal Festival Hall South Bank Centre SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/O Waterlon, Sunday Grufs izzzustazz High-profile jazz-rap meli-down. Empire Shepherd's Bush Green W12 101B1-740 7474) & Shepherd's Bush. Sun &

literature

Easthourne Sala Milgar Signing copes of his latest book, John Thomas And Lady Jane, Waterstone's (01323-735676) Today 11.30am, free.

"Med Sals Bening Murking the centenary of Oncar Wilde's imprisonment with readings by Andrew Blair, Julie Teal and Churles Spicer. Town Hall Bagrave Street (01734-591591) Sun 7.30pm, £8.50.

Richmond and Frays & Rigel Williams. The two writers and playwrights talk about the diversity of their work. Orange Tree Theater Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633) BR/O Richmond. Sun Span, E6, cones 14.

events

Behind The Sesson Bay A change to lock at the restoration of the spectacular building. Royal Parties (01273-603005) Today & Sun, Ham-

Careff lictural Health Store Confully University Park Place (01222-396421) Today & Sun, 10am-6рт, £2, совсэ £1.

LIMBUST HEATER STATE COMMON ROOK-cry Road SW4 (01604-7877777) ← Clayham Common. Today and Sun 2pm & Spn, £7-€20, cross available.

Ling States Hodel Railway Store Special events. with working steam pumping engines. Kew with working steam pumping engines. Kew Bridge Steam Moscum Green Drugot Late (0181-566 4757) BR: Kew Bridget & Kew Gardens Gunnersbury. Today and Sun Ham-Sprn, FLS, cones f.1.80, family £8.50. Heritage Lettagues Feir London Marriot Hotel Grouvenor Square: W1 (0171-493 1232) Sun Ham-Spm, E1, child free.

118m-Spitt, £1, Child tree.
Fine fat led feligiant Fair Olympia Hammetsmith
Road W14 10171-605 33441 ⊕ Earls Count/
Olympia. Tochay and Sun, 1 Lam-Spitt, £10, chaple £15.
Christmas (lights Road Streen/Left-ad Street/
Regen Street W1 (0171-730 3450) ⊕ Oxford
Circin Ends 6 Jan, chast-midnight, free. Circus Ends & Jan, class: distinguit, rec-legates \$5 The London Guild Of Weavers annual stows. Shakespeare? Globe New Globe Walk, Burkside \$E1 (0171-620 0202) & Con-non Street-London Bridge. Today & Sun. (0am-5pm, IA, cones E3, child £2.50. Caristans An Market \$5 Buy comemporary paint-ings, prints, sculptures and mixed media direct from the artist. Spitalfields Market Brushfield \$1 (0171-3778/134) BR/O Liver-

auctions

Wantsmertle Erotic and everyday ladies' fingeric and 43 Oriental carpets, Mon (11am). Gener-al Auctions, 65 Carratt Lane (0181-670 3009). Bath: 300 advertising signs and showers
Theries radios, rare Hornby Dublo los Theres rather, are Horus of Dates account tives, dolls, timplate, disease, Monday (1 pm). Phillips, 1 Old King Street (01225-310609). Augissay: Contents of a private hoarding school, including sailing dinghes, chushing genr, laboratory equipment, computers, must cal instruments at Plas Llandar, Llandarpoul Linder (1 pm). There is the deed Surroses & Pari. cai instruments at Plas Llanfair, Llanfairpoll. Tuesday (10,30am). Edward Symons & Part-

Tuesday (10.30am). Enward Symons & Part-ners (0151-236 8454).
Wardsate Brewery bar counter ceramics and furnisture, including a Mackintosh-style chair, Tuesday (10am). Cottees, The Market, East Street (01929-552826). Warelain: Brewery har counter ceramics and furniture, including a Mackintosh-syle chair, Tuestay (10am). Courses, The Market, East Street (1042-552526). Itself Wight Over 400 loss of old farm equipment and machinery, including two haywains, eight hand ploughs, haves and uronware. Tuesday (11am) at Wight Farm, Binstead. Warson Ball & Porter (01983-86-341). Banding: Ammal sale of horse brasses: \$50 loss, in monthly sale of furniture and effects, next Saturday (10am) at the Cattle Market. Thimblely & Shorland (01734-518011). Beacas, south Workers (10am) at the Cattle Market. Thimblely & Shorland (01734-518011). Beacas, south Workers, oext Sanarday (1pm). BBR Auctions, 5 fromorks Row (01226-745156). Michael Wines, port, sherry, brandy, restairms furnisme and appliances: washing machines, refrigerations, owns, Wednesday (10am). Aylshein Showrooms, off Palmers Lane (0126-743195). Bugler, Remaining contents of The Gables, including brouze figure lamps, Bechstein grand plano, Belgian tapestry, Thurnday (11am) at Hughey Community Centre, Worcester Road. Walton & Hoolsis (01364-992711). Balance Builders' equipment, site hus, vehicles, drills, floodlights, henters, senfloding, steel stores, crew bus and two cars, Thursday (10am) at Wilesmith Limited, Somers Park Avenue, Hamptons (10484-992711). Braingham: 100 lots of silver and plate, 30 lots of antique and modern fishing tackle, cased fish, with 12th Antique Fishing Tackle and Book Fair, near Saturday (11am) at the Saleroom Centre, Nock Deighton Sporting Sales (01746-76266). Braine Over 700 lots of antique and modern fishing tackle, cased fish, with 12th Antique Fishing Tackle and Book Fair, near Saturday (10.70mm). Taylors, 205 High Street (01404-42404). Brainingham: Out of on antique and modern fishing Tackle cased fish, with 12th Antique Fishing Tackle cased fish, with 12th Antique Fishing Tackle and Book Fair, neur Saturday (10.70mm). Taylors, 205 High Street (01404-42404). Brainingham: Out of on antique and modern fishing Tackle cased fish, with 12th Antique Fishing

fairs

Alexandra Palace Antigre and Colacters, over 700 stands, somorrow (0181-883 7061).
Staffard: Coursy Showground, near Saturday-Sunday (West Midhand Fuirs 01743-271444).
Shatchigh: Royal Showground Autuum Autuum Autuum Collectors, 400 indoor and outdoor pitches. Tuesday (1ACF 01636-70236).
Sectioned Recursosth: Antiques: 150 indoor stands and brive-in with 300 pitches, remorrow (Select Shown 01483-775210).
Egsin Specious Antiques: Over 100 dealers.
Tuesday (Continuity Fairs 01584-873634). row (Select Shows U1483-27-210).

Fyrom Recetours Autiques: Over 100 dealers,
Tuesday (Continuity Fairs 01584-873634).

Bywarafat Water Antique and Collecture: 300 indoor
and outdoor pitches, tomorrow (IACF 01636907726). 7(2326). Best London Autopaes and Collecture: 130 stands, Walthornstow Assembly Hall, tomorrow (Ridgeway Pairs (01702-7)(1883).

church services Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity

CHITCHIST TATEPRELL Rum HC, V 30cm Malins, Mac-Angeln Tibr, II am Sung Encharus with Hole Buyton, Managen Tibr, II am Sung Encharus with Hole Buyton, Managen Tibr, Marketter Marketter, The Key P G C. The Marketter Managen Street Francisco and Read-cest in B data. Adjum Service for the Admiration of Read-ers. The Baskop of Madelsone. 1988. HISTER Sam. N 15 am HC, 10cm Sung Euchariss, Darke in F. Canton Leake Stanbridge, III. Jaura Maten, Collegium regale Howellist Jun Evensone, Puscell in G minor. Canon IC Meed.

CONGRAMM TECHNICATION OF THE ACTION OF THE A

Chapel Bigst. St. James's Pattere W.Dom HC. 11.15am Morroung Proper. The Rev K. Hunder. Ber Basser Disputed the Basse, Story Hill, WC2. 11am Sung-Eucharyst. The Chaptain. Bassel Bigst. Tower of London. v 15am HC. Cannon 1.0.1 W. Murphy: 11am Motons and Sermon, Stan-ford in C. Viscount Turpyrandy. Daspel Bigst. Hampson Copts. Scillars HC. 11am Motons. Cultegam regist. (Hone-Stat, 3, 200m Bestings). Bassel Bigst. 11 Jam Dreine Service. Congrain Teger 11 15 am Dewie Service.

Genry in the Despit 11 15 am Dewie Service.

Genrosser Ednost, Studie Audie, Street, Wit 28, 15 am HC;

Lum Sung Eucharis, The Rev Senton Hobbs.

Bennic Chapel, Wellingston Berracks, SWI: 11 am Marins,

The Vern A. Dona; 12 part HC.

Jongi Respit Clastens, SWI: 13 am Morring Prayer, Ubicarists Durnfelt, The Rev T., Hisney.

Boyal Basel Callege Chapel, Grectwich, SEIO; 11 am Some
Eucharis, Somesium in F. Th. Rev Clive French.

Jil Salliens by the Bown, Byward Screet, ECS: 11 am Some
Eucharis, Canner Peter Delancy.

Jil Sallien, Margaris Screet, Wi: Sum Low Moss, 10, Dom
Mornite, Phyley, T. 11 am 14 ph. Mass. Matta berwit (Modaly, The Rev P., McGeary, S. 15 pm. Low Moss, topin
Solema Extremong and Bernefetturn, The Vient.

Jil Salliet, Putney Bralley, SWP Sem HC; 9, 20 cm. Sung
Eucharis; 11. Man Frantly Eucharist, a. Jopen Song

Croix.

Guton U6 Darck, Old Church Street, SW3: Sam HC:

10am Children's Service; Hum Masins, Mr D. Royer,

12.15pa HC, topn Evensong, The Rev P. Divy

Haly Irinip, Brouspour, Rood, SW7 9an HC, The Rev
Nicky Gumbel: Hum Informal Service. The Rev
Nicky Gumbel: Hum Information Events

11am Choral Euchemst, The Rev Dr Martin Israel.

Hub Hubb. Source Service SUP: 4-8-5mm HC: Hum Sime. Halp Mally, Sloome Street, SW1: 8-15mm HC: 11am Sung Buckurst, Alvanos in D minur, The Rector.

Euchard. Alvaris is D minur, The Rector.

5th film the limity, Holberts, EC1: 9 Jilam Song Mass.

1 Jiam Solean Mass. 5 Jilam Low Mass.

Shittidit. Addrate. EC2: 10 Jilam Song Eucharist, The
Rev Brian Lee.

R blin's Fleet Street, EC2. 11 am Choral Maines and
Eucharist. Purcell in C. Canvin John Cuter. 1 Jilam
Choral Erectong, Canna John Cuter.

3 Climit Hans., Strand, WC2: 11 am Choral Eucharist.

Collegium regale (Howelds). The Rev Fretz Bahors.

R Subberts. Philipsach Gardens, SW5: 10 am HC;
11 am Song Enchants. Durrant in E fint. The Rev I Vinc.

Stanger, Edoomabury: 10 am Sang Eucharist; 1 Jilam
Evening Proyer

George's, Hanover Square, W1-834cm HC; Ham Song, included, The Control of the Con Encharist, The Rector.

Stampts, Petradilly & 30am HC; 11am Sung Eucharust,
Amber Carole: 5.45pm Evening Prayer.

Stampts, Samer Gardens, W.; Sten HC; 11 30am Sung
Encharist, Muss bevers Hc total. The Rev Ball Wilkow;
hope Choral Evensong, Fourtheardons (Warriock).

Stamma Endhaltha Garden Hill, EC; 10 30am Sung
Eucharust, The Rev John Pual. k lala's, Hyde Park Crescent, Wit Kam HC, I'lean Parish Communica, n. Mipro Evening Servec. Communion, A. Myon Evening Server.

Schin's, Stratford Broadway, E15-11 am Family Connamion, The Rev David Nichards, 6. Opn Evening
Prayer and Prase, The Rev David Richards.

It has 'Study State Bank, 1999, Span HC, 9. Stam Pranh Communion, Harn Song Euchards, Menn Sameti Aleyd,

Haydin, The Rev Mark Oakley,

Slash's, Sesbacy Serves, SW3: Sam HC, 18. Otam Song
Eucharls, The Rev David Watson, 5. Stam Evensong,

The Rev Gerdal Beauchamp.

Rangards, Westgiminster Abbert Ham Same Fu-Eucharlsi, The Rev Derek Watson; h-Main Evensons; The Rev Certald Beauchamp.

The Rev Certald Beauchamp.

The Rev Certald Beauchamp.

R https://www.firelinester.Abbey Ham Sung Euchariss, The Rev De Prof. Brackham. Jyan Beensong, Powerli of Gonson; The Per Johan L Mell.

Shaft's, Repert 's Park Road, NWH: Ram HC, 9.45am Family Communion; Ham Song Fuchara). The Rev Tom Devonshire Roses.

Shaftals-she-fields, WCZ-Rem HC, 9.45am Eucharat, The Vesar; H. Main Visitors to Laudon Service, The Rev Bernhard Schlinsmann, 1230pm HC, The Rev William Ratchford, 2-45pm Christee Service. The Rev Hershald Schlinsmann, 1230pm HC, The Rev William Ratchford, 2-45pm Christee Service. The Rev Hershald Schlinsmann, 1230pm HC, and Jyan Devong Service. The Rev Bernhard Schlinsmann, 1230pm Hershald Hart, 5pm Mass. J. Julyan Bendings Prover, Husten Frord Mass., Fr Machael Hart, 5pm Mass. J. Julyan Bendinson and Derediction.

Staryli, Frimmon HBL, NWJ: Stan HC, 10.30am Parish Denociation.

Si Man's, Primmone HIL, NW3: Nam HC, 10.3 Juan Parish
Eacherist, The Rev John Overaden, open Taize Service.

Si Michael and Mangah, Beofried Paris, W4: Sum HC: Dam
Parish Eocherist; A. Jühns Evenstorig.

Straterat, Euratus Road, NW1: 10.30am Sung Mass; open
Chorol Servation. S Paseria, Linkos Roud, Powil: 10.150m Song Masic opin.
Choral Sevensorif.
SP Pairl, Wilston Place, SWI, Nam. 9am HC; Ham.
Solemm Bacharist, The Rev Curishripher Comrasald.
SP betir's, Extent Suparie, SWI; 8.156m HC; Hom Fomiphy Eucharist; Hant Song Eucharist, Fr WP. Knyca.
SP betir's, Sirredibans, SWI to: Sam Low Masic 10.30m
Solemm Mass, Masic Phora passa (Voulanta t. 5.87m
Solemm Entenings and Resculations. Murrill in E.
Stoglans, Classesser Road, SWI; Bent, Swin Low Masic
Linan Solemn Mass, Caston Chrisaopher Collect.
Linand Chart Horst Survey. Et d. 2. 3 Man FC; 11.152m. Them Solema Mass, Caton Carssopher Cower.
Them Church, Floor Street, EC4: 8.30em FIC, 11.15am.
Morning Prayer, Thaiben-Ball in B flat. The Master 2. Calenta's Crumb of Sections. Poor Street, SW1: 1120. The Rev W. Alexander Cairne, 6. Vopes, The Rev Calent

nd alf

in-he ed

L Marteod. Gram Gori (Charch of Scotland), Rassell Street, WC2: 11.15am Friends of Crown Court Festival Service, The Rev Stanley Hood; 6.30pm, The Rev Stanley Hood.

On Unity of the Insumption. Warrock: Street, W1: Rate, Illiam Minns: Illiam Sung Latin Minns, Minns octave trent (Labsure 1 Typen, Ages, Igen Mans.
In Institute, Berreguten Road, SW7, 7ans, Rate, 9am, Illiam Masce Illiam Solrena Masce, 12.30pm Masce 330pm Masce 330pm Masce 330pm Masce 330pm Masce 330pm Solvena Verycars, A30pm, 7pm Masc.
Beached Saughed and On 1ath, Stations Road, Penge E49, SE30; 9,45pm Rossay; Illiam Trick-tonne Mass.

Cay Tumain, Horborn Viadoct, ECT: 10 Mom. The Rev Dr David Hafburn.
Garless Berheifts Emrick, Kang's Royad, SWS: 11 ans. The Rev Je Dove and The Rev Dr George Lovell; Input. The Rev John Hashey.
Highwater Emrick Bill Helethorder! SWI: 11 ans. 6. Mpm., The Rev Dr Pater Graves.
Hallandss Bassley ### Change. Resolve Hill, Hampstend, NWS. 11 ans. The Rev Judish Walker-Raggs, "pun Escaing Service.
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Patenting Manual Efficiency operational-Prechysterian!, St. , the new react covering gon CompilEE (Congregational Previousment, St t Charch, Old Maryles me Read, WI: Ham, The St letter's Bit. French Lanc. NW? Ham. The Rev David Ager. S. Janhasod. 10.30am Morrang Service: 6.70pm Evening Service: 9.10pm Evening Service: 9.10pm Evening Service: 9.10pm Evening Service: 9.15pm Evening Service: 9.15pm Evening Mass. Nr. (Ban.). To main Traditional Latin Mass. St. Share Evidence of Latin Mass. Share Evidence (Latin Latin Mass. CC. 11am Choral HC. The Rev. Paul D. Schringer, "par Back Vespera, The Rev. Romelia T. England.

pers. The Rev Rounds T, Enghand,
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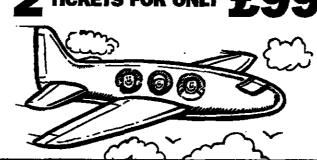
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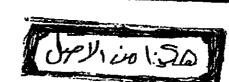
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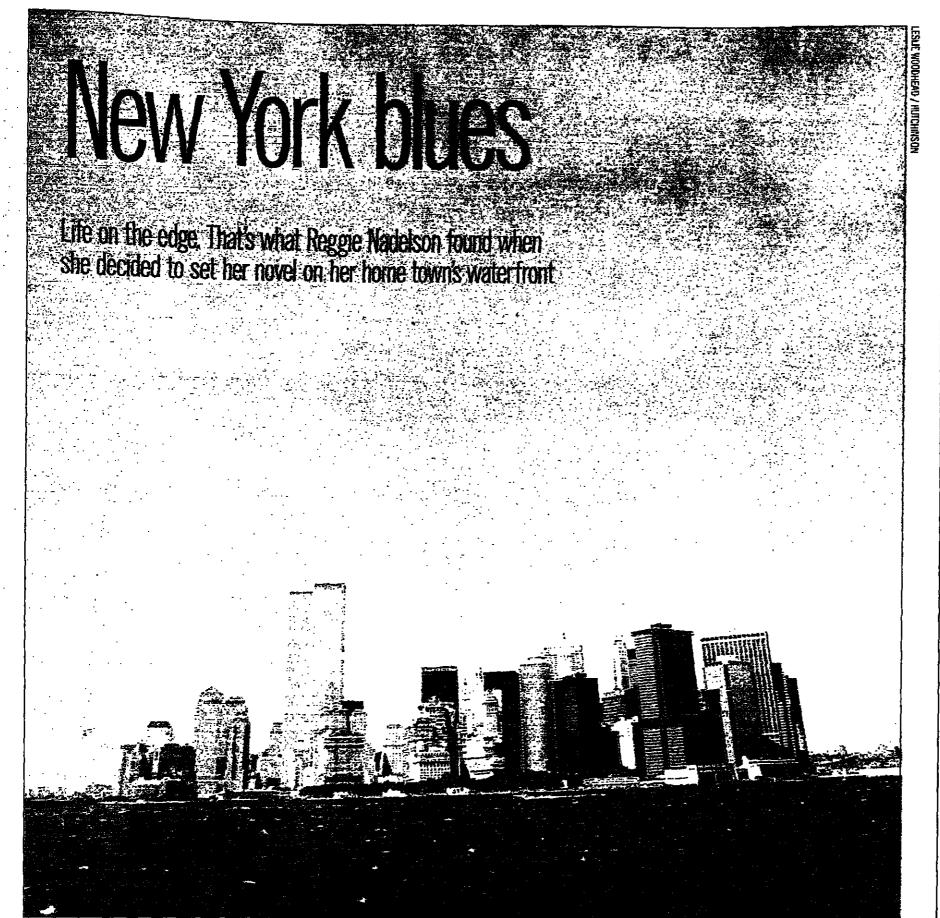
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aterways. Uptown, Donscrapers. Downtown, the marina at the Financial Center is stuffed with more and more yachts mogul yachts, yuppie yachts, party yachts, even the Honey Fitz, JFK's old river cruiser, is for hire complete with the pictures of Jack and Jackie suspended in heart-stopping iconic youth. A few miles away, artists priced out of the Manhattan aeronyms (SoHo, TriBeCa), have fied to the Brooklyn waterfront and DUMBO Down Under the Manhattan Bridge Overpass). Here, where the Brooklyn Navy Yards once launched an invasion fleet for Europe, the arty do battle with the godly: the Jehovah's Witnesses are buying everything they can get their hands on.

The restless city, erected mostly on islands, has nowhere to move so it reclaims riverfront and wetlands, rebuilds rotting docks and piers. Looking ahead through a rear-view mirror, to paraphrase Marshall McLuhan, call it the New York Archipelago. I never gave this city waterworld

much thought until I needed a background for Red Mercury Blues. a thriller set in the city - with a cop named Artie Cohen whose passion the city is. Artie Cohen, born in Moscow, came to New York and, like a zillion other immigrants, wanted only to be a New Yorker, it's the air he breathes, the thing he loves. If you grew up in a land-locked city like Moscow, he thinks, five hundred miles from water, the New York archipelago, the coastal city of bridge and rivers, islands and wetlands, has a dazzling glamour. And a kind of terrifying fragility. Driving home one day across the Brooklyn Bridge, I saw something I'd only seen in pho-

ings, eerie monsters, stuck up out of the rolling white fog while the mist hung on the Empire State Building in sheets.

I became a tourist in my own city and cruised as much of the 578 miles of waterfront as I could. I met bird-watchers at the old Bush Terminal in Brooklyn, where there are 60 species of birds, including rare blue herons. I ran into angry truckers at the Fulton Fish Market where Mayor Giuliani ordered the Mafia out and where, as a result, fish was left rotting and prices soared. Every morning, I rode my bike on the new Hudson River bike path from 14th Street where the He-Shes, the transvestite prostitutes, work the piers, to the financial centre where the suits disembark from the Jersey ferries for work. And there are the islands - not just Liberty and Ellis, but City and Riker's and Randall and Rat, and, of course, Manhattan and Staten. Of New York City's five boroughs, only the Bronx is even attached to the American mainland.

In a sense, New York's glamour has always been invested in its geography, ever since 1524 when Giovanni da Verrazano sailed into the spectacular harbour. He was knocked out. The beaches, he thought. The islands, silvery in the setting sun. The natives, gloriously bedecked in their New World gear, the feathers and beads and paint. There followed the traders. Henry Hudson in 1609, and the settlers, Dutch, English, Jewish. The rivers were the city's thoroughfares, and by the 19th century, the Hudson was a highway equal to the Thames, crammed with barges and tugs, steamers skyline from the best fish-eye

ing of the book. A weird white fog Europe or north up the Hudson seemed to boil up fast and low to the Eerie Canal and the Great is heading back to its from the river and cut Manhattan Lakes. No other city had so mar- ferent kind of city waterfront: in off. Only the tops of the buildings vellous a position for commerce. Brooklyn, on Brighton Beach, were visible. Manhattan was an island state. Remote. The build
A couple of recent novels set in where the Russian mob operates the city's 19th century - EL Doc
at the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. crowds who amble and shop. The torow's The Waterworks and The Alienist by Caleb Carr - give a potent sense of what it was like.

With Red Mercury Blues brewing, I went looking for the contemporary edges of the city, not just the theme parkery of the South Street Seaport, but the outer boroughs, as Manhattanites think of them. In Queens there are wetlands and nature reserves where birds sometimes get tangled with planes landing at LaGuardia and JFK airports. Here, on Hallowe'en, a man in a kayak from a local kayaking club got lost all night in the mists on Jamaica Bay. I ate Italian seafood on City Island, connected to the mainland by a causeway, a sleepy village of shippards and bungalows, that lies in the channel at Throg's Neck where the head of the East River meets Long Island sound. Here, prisoners from Riker's Island who work the city burial detail set out for Hart Island by boat.

Potter's field is on Hart Island, and 800,000 of the city's unclaimed dead are buried there. Burials take place four days a week; Mondays are for disinterments. It was, I realised, a place of perfect melancholy for my thriller, a place where a dead man who might provoke the wrong questions could be buried fast, anonymously. I could send Artie Cohen to Hart's Island to find out why.

When Artie feels lousy, he rides the Staten Island ferry. He wanders the marinas, or sits on the roof of his building on the fringe of Chinatown - where he can see the East River. He walks the promenade in Brooklyn Heights, where, at dusk, the magic bour, a hunded cameras snap the

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resembles a slice of Russia lifted, intact, and moved west. Built in the 1870s by a post Civil War developer, it was modelled on Brighton, England, and intended as a smart resort. The famous baths lasted for almost a century and, until the Second World War, Brighton Beach retained a faded summer style. After that, most of its residents were poor, Yiddishspeaking Jewish immigrants. Then, in the 1970s, Russians, most of them Jewish, too, began pouring in, the result of détente. Many were also criminals the Soviets let out of jail, a kind of Russian Mariel boat lift. This is a time warp: provincial

Russia meets turn-of-the-century

Brooklyn at the end of the line, the first step up the ladder, the last coming down for Russian immigrants. The poor live in shoddy houses of raw brick, Along the ocean front, the rich and crooked live in old Art Deco apartment buildings. When the wind blows, you can smell the ocean, the salt, sometimes the garbage. Everything is Russian: the old men on the boardwalk play chess, or wander the winter boardwalk, ice in their beards; the snarling piroshki seller on the main drag shouts at you when you take his picture. In the windows of Fish Town, smoked salmon, sturgeon, chubb, trout are crammed together alongside black bread the shape and weight

of small warheads. A hood in leathers pulls up to Fish Town in a white Jag and buys a kilo of caviar with a bundle of cash. Everything is cash in Brighton Beach, the main financial instrument is the safety

Brighton Beach Avenue, so even in broad daylight the light is snatches of conversation, Russian, Yiddish, are always about money.

Just west, just down the boardwalk from Brighton Beach, is Coney Island. The legendary amusement park, crumbling now - the freak shows deserted, the ferris wheels rusting - might have been lifted straight from Graham Greeneland. It gave me a terrific setting for murder. Just east is Sheepshead Bay, with its canals offering half-days fluke fishing on tidy boats, and tidy suburban villas where I could set an entire, upmarket Russian mafia family. It was easy to invent mobsters and dead bodies in Brighton Beach; I had to invent them because no one here talks to outsiders. On New Year's Eve, at the Cafe

Arbat they shoot each other up. Writing Red Mercury Blues, I got to know my own city. I got to understand that in a town of immigrants, you twitch a string in Brooklyn, someone dies in Moscow. Artie Cohen made me think about the millions of immigrants, but especially those who came by sea, like my own grandparents, who disembarked at Ellis Island in 1901 in the middle of the biggest migration in human history. Jan Morris writes about arriving in Hong Kong as theatre. It seems to me that this is even more true of New York: when the immigrants came, as they sailed through the Narrows, past the statue of Liberty, it was as if New York Harbor was America's box office and the curtain just going

> 'Red Mercury Blues' by Reggie Nadelson, is published on 20 November by Faber & Faber £14,99.

up on a new life.

Red tape

British passport holders travelling on normal return air tickets to the United States do not require visas.
A visa is useful, however, if you visit America frequently. A visitor's visit, valid for up to 10 years, costs visa, valid for up to 10 years, costs visa, valid for up to 20 years, costs £13.75 from the Visa Section of the US Embassy (call 0891 200290 for further details, this is a premium-rate number). Once in New York, you can sign up for the Inspass scheme, which uses a computer record of your hand geometry to give immediate clearance through immigration on subsequent visits; just register at the airport before your flight home.

Getting there

London-New York is the most competitive intercontinental eir route in the world. The lowest prices are available through discount agents such as those advertising in these pages, on flights with El Al, Icelandair, Kuwait Airways and Air India - expect to pay around £200, including taxes of around £25. Prices increase steeply in mid-December, and will fall again in early January...

Airport links

The cheapest and surest way from Kennedy into Manhattan is to take the free Port Authority bus to Howard Beach subway station. From here, a \$1.25 (80p) ride will take you to any station on the New York subway system. Total journey time from Kennedy airport to midtown Manhattan is about 75 minutes. From Newark airport in New Jersey, the most exotic atternative to the New Jersey Transit bus to Manhattan, price \$7 (£4.50), is to take a taxi to Hoboken for around \$25 (£16) and cross on the ferry.

Getting around

The subway system is fast, cheap and complicated. Before attempting to use it, pick up a map and some flat-fare tokens (\$1.50/95p) from a kiosk in a subway station. Accommodation New York is easily the most

expensive place to stay in the US. A double room in a good, central hotel such as the Mayflower on Central Park West (265 0060) will cost at least \$150 (£95) per night, even if you secure a cut-price weekend rate. An increasingly popular alternative is a hostel. These are often restricted

to foreign visitors in an apparent bid to deter local lowlife. Single and double rooms are available at the Vanderbilt YMCA (224 East 47th Street, 756 9600) for \$45/\$55 respectively, including tax, while along at the Manhattan Hostel (119 W 45th Street, 302 2603) a double room costs a flat \$50. A good way to cut accommodation costs is to buy an inclusive package. All the big airlines run packages to New York through their tour operating subsidiaries - American Holidays (0181-577 9966), British Airways Holidays (01293 615353), United Vacations (0181-313 0999). Virgin Holidays (01293 617181).

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A journey through time and tide on the Romney Marsh

By Jon Winter

nywhere else it would have where the path opened up into looked bizarre: two grown miles of perfect sand. This was Camber Sands, crowded on hot men, knee-deep in flotsam and jetsam, sculpting a man summer days, but now delightfully and his boat from plastic empty. I shared the place with only a cantering horse and a handful of bottles, driftwood and marine junk. But this was Romney fresh-air junkies. My bike could go Marsh on the coastal border of no further so I backtracked and ioined the road heading to Camber, Kent and Sussex. Over the last millennium what was a shallow bay has become a triangular-shaped level

Following the sea wall out of

Camber through Broomhill Sands,

sea gets deeper. The road cuts

Lydd and Dungeness.

A gentle cycling speed is just the right pace to travel along these lanes. Walking would be too slow, stretching out into the English Channel and littered with a wealth of tidal debris and local history. and in a car you would miss the stalking herons, wild orchids and marsh frogs that thrive along the In the Sussex corner of this triangle, high and dry along the old Saxon shoreline, sits the ancient hedgerows and ditches of Romney Cinque Port of Rye. The town is Marsh. I passed unnoticed through the bucket-and-spade village of picture-postcard pretty, cluttered Camber. Groups of bored youths drifted past the holiday chalets, with curiosity shops and tea rooms. And it makes an excellent start for bungalows and caravan parks. a bicycle trip to the Marsh.

From Rye. I headed seaward, cycling along a grassy dyke that fol-lows the last few miles of the River the beaches turn to shingle and the Rother, my destination Dungeness inland here, skirting the perimeter fence of an MOD firing range some 10 miles away. Low tide had left the riverbank lined with the across some of the bleakest parts resting hulks of trawlers wedged in the silt, some at their final mooring, left lying like decaying carcasses. It was in this watery graveyard that I saw the two sculptors.

of the marsh. Your eyes wander inland over farmland and shingle pits, alive with rabbits and wildfowl. The road eventually winds its I ground to a halt in soft dunes

Marsh attracts herons

How to get there

South East Trains runs services from Charing Cross in London via Astrford to Rye, costing £14.40 for an adult day return. Bikes are carried free.

Where to go

RSPB Dungeness Bird Reserve: open daily except Tuesday, 9amsunset; Visitor Centre 10am-5pm. Entry charge for non RSPB members: adults £2, children 50p concessions £1.50. Dungeness nuclear power station visitors centre: daily except Sat 10am-4pm. Free tours at 10am, 11.30am, 1pm and 2.45pm. Lydd Museum is open on summer bank holidays and during summer school holidays 2.30-5pm (no

Dungeness's old lighthouse is open to visitors between Easter and Oct. Who to ask

Rye Tourist Information Centre 01797 226 696 or Ashford Tourist Information Centre 01233 629165.

but now five miles from the sea. Home to fishermen, lifeboatmen and, in the past, smugglers, it is no surprise to find that the town has way through Lydd, once an island a natural interest in what washes

tiny museum here (open during the summer school holidays and on summer Bank Holidays) is apparently crammed with all sorts of wonders from the sea: clay pipes, early bottles, even several

tatty pairs of backstays.
"I remember a huge hand of bananas hanging in my grand-father's house, he'd found those on the beach," a local lady told me. "News went round pretty quick. If there was a shipwreck everyone would head off down to the beach to see what there was."

Leaving Lydd, the Marsh becomes a vast shingle beach, its emptiness punctuated by the Mec-cano of shingle extraction and rows of crackling power lines surging out from Dungeness power station. I turned down a shingly path following a signpost for Dungeness Nature Reserve, Deep water-filled pits, abandoned by shingle extrac-tors, have provided perfect habitats for some of Britain's rarer seabirds, and hides are dotted along the reserve's two-and-a-half-mile trail. Depending on the time of year, you might see sandwich terns, gad-

walls, pochards and oyster catchers. I cycled on to Dungeness itself, of our coastline.

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up on the surrounding beaches. A past the Pilot Inn, up the beach road and past fishermen's cottages to a favourite spot near the power station where little clapboard cottages and converted railway carriages sit on open shingle.

Only one cottage has a garden an almost occult arrangement of maritime plants and washed-up things. Yellow horned poppy and sea pea grow among twisted, rusting metal, driftwood obelisks, stone circles and marine junk. The garden was created by the late artist and film-maker Derek Jarman and it attracts a regular stream of visi-

tors to this remote comer of Kent. My journey ended at the top of the old lighthouse, 400 yards inland from the new one, and the fourth in a succession of beacons left obsolete by tides that continue to pile seven feet of shingle and tidal debris on the tip of this triangle every year. When open to the public, the crow's nest offers a magnificent view back across the marsh to the old Saxon shoreway. Jarman felt the nuclear power station helped give this landscape its charm - an ironic reflection given that the steamy giant poses a silent threat to this extraordinary stretch



The image is uncannily familiar. A model of a DC-10 sporting red and black stripes, plus a brand-name in juvenile script that is still instantly recognised 13 years after a very public financial collapse. Be-side the aircraft, the man whose Skytrain concept

launched the present era

of cut-price transatiantic travel: Sir Freddie Laker is back in business. Sir Freddie, 73, was star of the show at the World Travel Market in west London this week. Next March, Laker Airways will begin flying from Gatwick to Florida again, operating a series of charter flights to Orlando and Fort Lauderdale. The airline is turning its back on the standby concept that brought in a London-New York ticket of £59 in 1977 - as long as you were prepared to queue for a day or two. The 1996 fare starts at £399 return, and instead of a "no-frills" service it will be hard to move for

inflight twirls. Laker is borrowing heavily from Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic, with seatback entertainment and inflight gambling. The entrepreneur shrugged off the bankruptcy of his airline in 1982. He told me: "Tve been in the industry for 57 years. One loss in the business is better than a lot of many other people."

The annual travel trade fair was the biggest ever, but real travellers were excluded as usual. The bravest newcomer to the business was Nicaragua, which chose the fair to launch a global campaign to attract visitors to Central America's largest nation. A combination of the

Contra war in the 1980s and seismic activity destroyed the tourism industry. But Lucy Valenti of the Nicaraguan Ministry of Tourism was optimistic: "The army has been reduced from 80,000 to 12,000 and there is no more war. We're trying to tempt people to the Atlantic coast."

srael's tourism ministry had a large presence at the event, trying to min-imise concerns about visitor safety following the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin two weeks ago. Despite the sporadic violence in Israel this year, the country is expecting a "peace dividend" to produce 2.5 million visitors in 1995, a record number.

The British Tourist Authority used the fair to launch its plans for Euro '96, the European soccer championships that begin in Liverpool next June. After decades of exporting soccer hooliganism, England will next year be welcoming supporters from 15 European nations, and intends to milk them for their tourism potential.

"We want to expose them to all the tourism attractions in and around the cities where the matches are taking place," said Adele Biss, chairwoman of the BTA and the English Tourist Board. The BTA is organising a series of "Welcome Host" courses to improve the reception given to foreign visitors by everyone from taxi drivers to hotel staff. As well as language tuition, cultural advice is being dispensed – such as on the sensitivity of Japanese guests to being placed in room number four.

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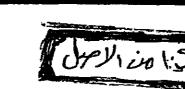
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fi,

Nothing moves faster than an old lady cycling to church

Water, water everywhere has a dampening effect on the pace of life in Delft: cars come a poor third to pedestrians, bikes and the joys of pottering. By James Rampton

o. it's flat - which part of the Low Countries isn't? - but provincial Holland has far more to offer than the odd dyke and windmill. It is sadly underrated as a holiday destination for Britons. Take Delft - the classic example of a small Dutch market-town. The first thing you notice as

you come in from the Hook of Holland (only half an hour's drive away) is that there is water, water everywhere - hardly surprising when you recall that much of the country actually lies below sea-level. A famous saying goes that God made the Dutch, but the Dutch made Holland. (Or as Thomas Hood put it in Up the Rhine: "Holland... lies so low. they're only saved by being dammed.") This was rubbed in to the Dutch all too uncomfortably earlier this year when flooding caused thousands of people to be evacuated from their low-lying homes. It is a source of great Air: there are plenty of flights from national pride that not a single person perished in the crisis.

The effect of all that water on

Delft is to calm things down. Thanks to a fiendish system of one-way streets and humpbacked bridges in the old town centre, cars have to play third fiddle behind pedestrians and bicycles. Nothing moves faster than an old lady cycling to church (they're not an exclusively British phenomenon), and road rage is confined to trate 200277. men in bicycle-clips stuck behind a jam of prams.

The canals have also prevented large-scale development in the situated opposite the ornate town centre; there just isn't the space for a high-rise complex. This square. As with New College, means that the old town has been left largely undisturbed since 1536, when two-thirds of the wooden buildings were destroyed by a fire caused by lightning. If the vista doesn't match Vermeer's famous View of Delft (which hangs not in Delft but in the Maritshuis in the the floor. But the new(er) edifice home outside virtually every Hague and which it is curiously provides more historical interest other shop, and for those who difficult to find a postcard of in —if only to show that Orange big—can't go without their daily fix of Delft), that's not the fault of developers. The artist himself admitted to taking a large slice of artistic licence in his painting, shifting buildings around on his a sitting position, as kneeling canvas.

The townscape is dominated Catholic thing to do. by the twin peaks of the Oude Kerk (old church) on the main attractive late Gothic Prinsenhof tend to be German.



How to get there

Rail: you can reach Delft from Waterloo International in around six hours with a change of train at Brussels Midi and Rotterdam. The lowest fare is £105 return, it you book 14 days in advance, Call the Rail Shop on 0345 300003 for more details.

all over the UK to Amsterdam airport; from here you can reach Defft in 40 minutes by train. The return fare from Gatwick or Heathrow on British Airways (0345) 222111) is £87 including tax. Air UK (0345 666777) from Manchester costs £111 return. British Midland (0345 554554) files from East Midlands for £107.

Holland information line: 0891

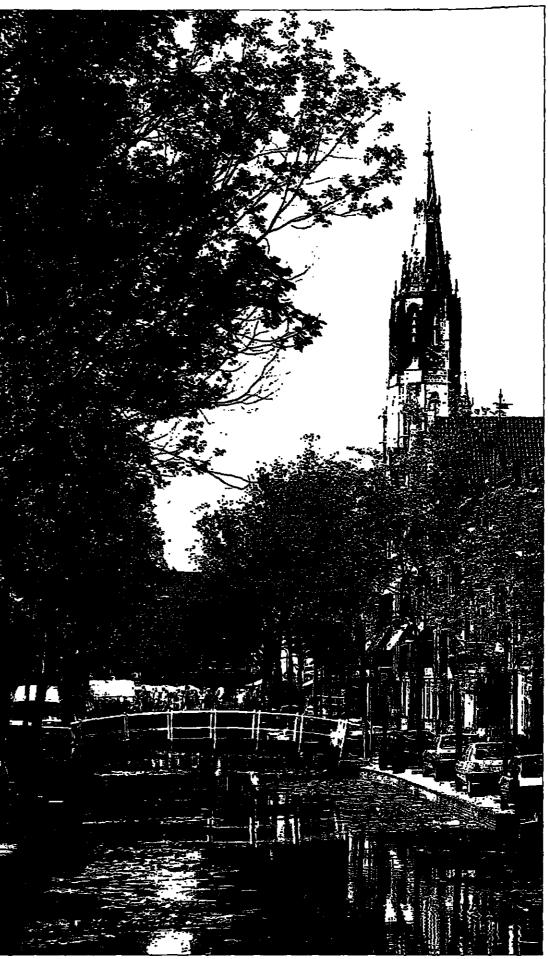
canal, the Oude Delft, and the Nieuwe Kerk (er, new church), hall in the charming market Oxford, the terms are relative. The Oude Kerk was founded in 1240, while the Johnny-comelately Nieuwe Kerk dates back to 1383. The old(er) building boasts the memorial to local boy made clomping along in clogs, but the good. Johannes Vermeer - a touchingly simple flagstone on offer a tempting reminder of otry is not something dreamt up by extreme Ulster Unionists. The monument to Prince William of Orange depicts the pious royal in without being quizzed - in perwas considered an excessively

building, now a museum. In here you can gawp at the bullet-holes in the wall where said Prince William was assassinated in 1584. In the herb garden outside, you can eatch your breath on a seat which appears to double as the world's largest piece of Delft

pottery.
Yet the relaxing thing about
Delft is that you don't have to "do" any sìghts ~ although there are several Delftware factories and shops for the potteryminded. As in Amsterdam, the principal pleasure derives from pottering, often aimlessly, around the network of canals that constitute the town centre - on foot or on a pedalo. We spent two and a half weeks doing just that, without once nearing the boredom threshold. You may happen upon a wonderously-stocked flower market, a wandering jazz band (Delft has an impressive jazz festival in August) or, if you're more unlucky, a stall selling pickled herring (someone should have have a quiet word and let the Dutch in on the secret that they're much nicer smoked).

Like most places, the town looks at its best in the soft evening light when you can have a drink on one of the moored barges or visit a restaurant on the market square and wolf down a ludicrously fattening pancake syrup and whipped cream is a particular favourite (well, you are on holiday). Those planning rugby tours will be disappointed to hear that after intensive research, I found that Delft's red light district amounted to one rather tatty "adult" emporium the sort of place which specialises in mags and macs.

One word of warning. Don't expect to be able to immerse yourself totally in a foreign culture. Sure, you see old people Neighbours, 90 per cent of Dutch homes have access to BBC television. You can't go into a shop fect English - about Arsenal's Dutch striker, Denis Bergkamp. If you don't want anyone to talk Five minutes away is the to you, the best thing is to pre-



Six of the best day trips from Delft

De Grote Plas. A large lake on the outskirts of Unless you've been working out and toning your stomach to resemble a washboard. be wary of the area marked "naaktstrand". It's the nudist beach.

The Hague. Just 10 minutes by train from Delft. It offers the splendid lakeside Maritshuis, which houses a refreshingly digestible art collection. The star attractions exquisite View of Delft and a magnificent, late self-portrait by Rembrandt.

historical town centre -20 minutes by train from Delft - it is crisscrossed with canals and features a fine, ruined castle perched on a hill from which you get a

Utrecht. An hour's train ride from Delft – a small, more managable version of Amersterdam, without the red light sleaze. The best views of this ancient university town can be had from the imperious cathedral

The Open Air Museum of the Netherlands is iust outside Amhem. 35 minutes beyond Utrecht This fascinating outdoor museum displays Dutch buildings through the

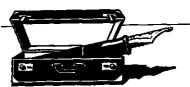
The Hoge Veluwe. A little further out of Amhem, you reach this wonderful national park which doubles as a (don't miss the Van Goghs or the sculpture park) and a marvellous heath around which you can cycle on white bicycles provided by the

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to declare

Bargains of the week

Bus fares to Poland are excellent value due to extensive competition. Return fares from various points in the UK to cities such as Poznan, Lodz, Wrocław, Warsaw. Krakow and Gdansk cost around £85 through companies such as Eurolines (0990 808080), Europol (0171-828 9008) and Fregata (0171-734 5101).
The airpass from Canadian Airlines (0345 616767) offers

a cut-price way to go skiing and sunbathing this winter.

Starting in Toronto, you could fly to Vancouver, onwards to Orlando in Florida and back to Toronto for £216 - a fraction of the normal fare.

True or talse?

"My friend, this shop belongs to the Maharaja himself." Shopkeeper in Juipur

False. To quote a notice at the city palace in Jaipur: "Let it be known to everyone that there is NO repeat NO shop owned by Brig. Maharaja Sawai Bhawani Singh of Jaipur, MVC; Maharani Padmani Dev of Jaipur; or Princess Diya Kumari of Jaipur, within the city palace, Jaigarh, Amber or elsewhere in the city of Jaipur. Anyone claiming this is misleading the public, is a fraud, and will be prosecuted. By order."

Visitors' book Baikal Museum, Lake Baikal, Siberia

There are not enough superlatives for Baikal and - Tom Hefferman (no address given)

A wonder of the world! Fabulous! - Jodi Abbott, Oregon

Preserve Baikal. Thank you for your work - Janet Carpenter, Maine

Vive le lac Baikal – Pierre-Jean, France

So refreshing to swim in the lake. Hong Kong to Lundon Try it after a few vodkas. – Mike and David Stott, Lancashire

Hopefully I'll be back to scubadive one day

– J. Rewer, Namibia

Much more needs to be done to protect Baikal's unique biodiversity through research, education and prevention of - Joseph Sing, Florida

How about some English (French? German?) translations - Sarah Jackson, England

Cutie seals - illegible signature, en route from

Trouble spots

This week's advice from our man in the Foreign Office

"Care should be taken when using beaches and picnic spots. Even when officially cleared, there is still a danger from unexploded ordnance".

Egypt
Avoid travelling "to or through the governates of Minya or Assuit (which includes the tourist sites of Tel e Amarna and Beni Hassan) unless you have essential business there".

"There has been looting and sporadic rioting in Livingstone, Zambia's border town with Zimbabwe at the Victoria Falls. We recommend that British nationals should not visit Livingstone at present."

Information supplied by the Foreign Office Travel Advice Unit. To contact them, dial 0171-270 4129, check page 564 on BBC2 Ceefax or access the Internet, http://www.fco.gov.uk/

EUROPEAN DEPARTURES

most tourists' agendas, but this ancient settlement is one of the most attractive cities in northern Europe. Scandinavian Seaways couples who fly to any of its (01255 241234) offers shortbreak holidays from Harwich. The price of £172 per person includes two nights aboard ship to and from Hamburg, the rail connection and two nights B&B at a hotel in Lübeck.

Two-for-the-price-of-one tickets are all the rage within Europe at the moment. Air UK (0345 666777) has teamed up with Kelloggs to provide cheap flights for consumers of Corn Flakes. Media Travel of Surrey (01784 434434) is offering fares on Alitalia to

übeck in Germay is off Italy starting at £99 plus tax when two people travel together. Air Portugal (0171-828 0262) is offering three days' free car rental to home bases - Faro, Lisbon or Oporto. The cost per person is £114, exclusive of taxes, service charges, weekend supplements and personal accident insurance.

> The first exhibition devoted exclusively to the work of Johannes Vermeer is on display in Washington, but it will move to the Hague from 1 March to 2 June. Because demand for the artist's exhibition is likely to be high, the Netherlands Board of Tourism is selling tickets in advance. Write to PO Box 523, London SW1E 6NT

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We reach Damascus in the evening and spend the We reach Dantascus in the evening and special the first night in the oldest fiving city in the world and the Islamic capital under the Omayyads. Exploration of the city has to be on foot, navigating the tortuous alleys of the old city is wonderful. Palmyra is a very special place - the city has colonnaded streets and monumental arches but is perhaps most

well known for the Temple of Baal. The Lebanese are proudly aware that they stand at a historic crossroads. Behind them lie two decades of violence that claimed thousands of lives and brought the country's economy, its shattered capital, suburbs and towns, and even its people, to the edge of anarchy. In front of them is the Lebanon's prized reputation as the Middle East's market place and the quintessential travel destination.

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the night. Day 4 Drive to Crac des Chevaliers then cross the border into Lebanon to Anfe for 2 nights. Day 5 Visit Tripoli, the Kadisha Valley, Becharreh and the Cedars. Day 6 Visit Byblos and Beirut. Continue to Zhale for 2 nights. Day 7 Visit Baalbeck. Day 8 Return to Damascus for the return flight to

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Cold comfort

Irkutsk and Lake Baikal are in the middle of a semi-frozen nowhere. Simon Calder met the settlers there

ntensity is the only thing that counts in a Siberian winter. and the grumpy faces on the streets of Irkutsk 10 days ago revealed an unwonted outbreak of moderation. This warming is, indeed, global. After our long, hot summer in Britain, the citizens of eastern Russia are alarmed to be suffering a short hot winter.

For the tourist, though, the unseasonal climate is perfect. Sunshine sprinkles down through the naked branches of silver birches, their twigs no doubt appropriated for in-sauna heatings. A sprinkling of snow that would not look out of place in a junior school nativity scene decorates, rather than carpets, streets. The broad thoroughfares, however, bear unBiblical names celebrating Lonin and the proletariat. Irkutsk is a heroic muddle: despite the mutterings and perspirings of the people, you are fortunate to see its true colours only faintly obscured by snow.

To comprehend how heroic the first settlers were, take a quick look at the map alongside. Although Irkutsk is on the same latitude as Birmingham - and indeed has some hideous 1960s architectural features in common - it is altogether cooler and more remote. The nearest significant city is Ulan Bator, capital of Outer Mongolia. Moscow is 87 hours away down the line, the track in question being the Trans-Siberian railway, Before the railway was the Post Road, and before that were the tracks in the frost left by the steeds of the Cossacks. Their eastward march claimed Siberia for the Tsar, and

with it the lucrative fur trade. The early settlers built timid cottages on the marshy banks of the Angara river. Their homes have been gently subsiding ever since. Sturdy shutters to block out station: a place to replenish your

the winter-long freeze are decorated with intricate filigree, while stout and stoic caves look strangely out of proportion without their burden of snow.

The scene is not without sparkle: amid the dark timber homes, punctuated by ungainly apartment blocks, the dazzling gold leaf of bulbous church spires lifts the skyline. One heaven-piercing tower does not match, but may comfort the Westerner a long way from home: the stern Gothic facade of a Catholic church, constructed by Polish exiles. Compared with anywhere else within a month or two's march, Irkutsk was cosmopolitan indeed. The city was once known as the "Paris of the East", but presumably only among those who had never seen the French capital.

The next wave of heroes were the Decembrists, a band of rebellious aristocrats whose attempted coup in St Petersburg was crushed in 1825. Their families followed them into exile, and their ideas formed the basis for a strain of revolution which found its ultimate conclusion in Stalin. Nevertheless, their memory is still celebrated in a modest museum where the visages in the photographs are as faded as they are bearded.

This museum is one of the few sights on the official (In)tourist trail around Irkutsk, which could help to explain why there are so few tourists. A stronger reason, though, is that you need to be a devoted tourist indeed to get here. I flew in, and was disturbed to read in the Aeroflot inflight magazine en route from Moscow that the maximum range of the Tupolev in which I was flying was 4,000 kilometres; the distance to Irkutsk is 5,000km. Most other visitors arrive by rail, and use



supplies and soul on the way to Vladivostok or Beijing.

If you fancy a day at the seaside, be warned that the nearest ocean is 2,000 miles away as those forbidding crows fly. So instead take the 40-mile bus trip to one of the wonders of the natural world.

Beach life beside the world's biggest and deepest freshwater lake is a seasonal affair. Between November and March, best stick to Barbados: in winter, Lake Baikal freezes so solidly that you could run the Trans-Siberian railway across it. But the lake's main resort, Listvyanka, is on the same latitude as Clacton, and beneath the pale sunshine the concise, gravelly strand entices you towards waters

far more clear than any sea. When it is warm enough to swim, say the locals, the water is so transparent that you can see 40 yards down. The lake contains one-sixth of the world's fresh water, enging what they can from the and a huge number of species are unique to Siberia's natural reservoir: freshwater seals, for example.

Log cabins along the shore are but approaching fast.

painted bright green or blue, an antidote to the harsh, lifeless ground on which the occasional shaggy cow forages for morsels. Just beyond the communal well is the church of St Innocent, a simple home for Orthodox humility.

The gaps between the cabins are being filled by garish red-brick hol-iday homes. But whatever constructions are under way, the hilltop Hotel Baikal is unreconstructed Intourist, down to the shoddy fixtures and glum lighting in the hopefully named "Koktail Bar".

In the restaurant (bafflingly located in the sub-basement), order some omul - the local freshwater salmon that is, you guessed it, unique to Baikal - and vodka. Pull back the fusty lace curtain, and the whole wide window is filled with a glorious vision of the lake at the end of the world. Great black crows strut around, intent on scavunforgiving earth before it is covered in a freeze-over for the real winter - a score of degrees away,



Simon Calder paid £320 for a London-Moscow return on Aeroflot, and a further \$540 (£350) for the Moscow-Irkutsk round trip. Trans-Siberian trains to and from Vladivostok, Beijing and Ulan Bator all pass through Irkutsk.

Where to stay

Simon Calder paid \$102 (about £65) for a room and breakfast, at the Intourist Hotel. Official alternatives are hard to find, but you may be able to arrange a homestay informally

If the Swiss had any soul, they would mark the Millennium

by demolishing St Moritz Bad. They could raze Dorf, too

Who to ask

Russian Tourist Information Service 0891 516951.

WORLD **DEPARTURES**

The programme of winter charter flights to Australasia is underway. Britannia Airways operates charters on behalf of Austravel (0171-734 7755). which sells off empty sears at heavy discounts as departure dates approach. The company also sells oneway tickets on a standby basis at Gatwick or Manchester. You can expect to pay around £200 for the. one-way journey if a seat is

If you want to visit Osaka (see below) on the way, why not take advantage of a flight with a free stopover in the city. Bridge The World (0171-911 0900) is one of many travel agents offering cheap tickets on this route.

Of the many ways to reach Anchorage, Alaska, perhaps the most unusual is aboard an overland truck operated by Dragoman (01728 861133). The plan is to arrive in Anchorage on 7 July next year, and there is a variety of starting points: Mexico City (start 26 May, £895), Antigua (24 April, £1,460), Panama City (28 March, £2,020). Quito (8 March, £2,420). La Paz (8 February, £3,140) and Ushuaia (8 January, £3,750). All these itineraries can be undertaken in the reverse direction. Food and accommodation adds about 30 per cent to the cost.

Agiant toilet is the latest tourist attraction in the Japanese city of Osaka. This large-scale working model is one of the exhibits at the Sewerage Science Museum. opened this year to mark the centenary of modern sanitation in the city. You can crawl through a section of sewer tunnel, fortunately one isolated from the mains Contact the Japan National Tourist Office in London (0171-734 9638) or the Osaka Tourist Information Service on (06) 941 9200.

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Snow's Up he ugliest blot on the Alpine landscape, by common consent, is Les

By Chris Gill Menuires - the poor relation of Méribel, Courchevel and Val Thorens in the world's biggest linked ski area. the Trois Vallées. And if it has rivals they are, by common consent, similar products of the French resort-building region; a gondola gets you boom of the 1960s: Plagne Centre, Tignes, Isola 2000, Flaine.

However, last winter I had occasion to think of Alpine blots in a different perspective. In the end, ugliness itself doesn't matter, what matters (at least to those of us who go to the mountains for inspiring views) is the harm that ugliness does. The more splendid the setting, the greater the price of ugliness. And the most harmful blot on the Alpine landscape is, I venture, not a purpose-built French resort but a traditional Swiss resort famous for high living: St Moritz.

As you drive along the fabulous lake-filled valley of the Upper Engadine, the uncompromising cuboid blocks of St Moritz Bad, the relatively downmarket lakeside suburb of the resort, come as a serious shock. From the elevated viewpoint of St Moritz Dorf, the resort proper, they are even more offensive, drawing the horrified eye from the glorious skyline of the 4000m Piz Bernina heyond. If the Swiss had any soul, they would mark the millenium by demolishing St Moritz Bad.

For me, they could raze Dorf while they are at it. The place where wintersports holidays supposedly started is now a swanky but grey little Swiss town sited at an unnaturally high altitude, and its three famous five-star hotels struck me as parodics of conspicuous consumption. Even if I won the lottery and the view from their windows were improved in the radical way I've suggested, I'd prefer to stay down at the bottom end of the famous Cresta tohoggan run, in still-villagey Celerina – perhaps in the family-run hotel Arturo.

Celerina is just as well placed as St Moritz itself for exploration of the very extensive skiing of this spectacular into the skiing on Corviglia as quickly as the monorail from Dorf, and a bus-ride or a drive is in any case needed to get to each of the three other main areas. Most of the piste skiing in the region is of intermediate difficulty, with plenty at the flatteringly easy end of the range. The most chal-

lenging pistes are a few miles

mogulied mountain of 850m vertical - though there are a blacks on Corviglia, A great way to end a day on Corvatsch, across the valley, is the 6km lift-free Hahnensee run graded black, but practically all of red difficulty.

Good skiers can find lots to do off-piste, whether it's taking minor variations on piste routes, tackling proper (and tough) off-piste descents from Piz Nair (at the top of Corviglia) or Corvatsch, or embarking on serious expeditions well outside the lift net-Roseg valley from Corvatsch, after the millenium ...

out at Lagalb, where a cable- beneath the glaciers of Piz car serves an isolated Bernina to Pontresina. And in a poseur's resort like this, the off-piste snow doesn't get couple of short legitimate skied out as it does in mainstream resorts.

.

The skiing will certainly take me back to Oberengadin. For those with interests outside skiing – lunch, après-ski, tobogganing, shopping and (in midwinter) countless activities on the frozen lake, from golf to horse-racing - St Moritz has few serious rivals. It is one of the very best Alpine areas for cross-country skiing. And there are plenty of marvellous views that happily do not include St works - such as down the Moritz Blot. And who knows,

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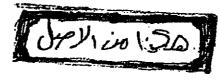
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een every year since. His

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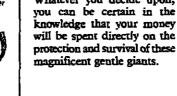


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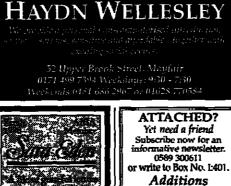
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that as a matter of

courtesy they will.

3

The warm heart of Africa

Tim Neale packed up four panniers, mounted his Dawes Synthesis, and returned to Malawi after a gap of 30 years



t's not yet 6am. We're cruising south down the Ml. relaxed and chatting side by side. Suddenly we are overtaken by a young man thrashing past on a bicycle pulling a carrier containing the carcass of a pig wrapped in banana leaves. It's a clear challenge: my 24-gear Dawes Synthesis (nicknamed Dervla) weighed down with four panniers and my three-score years versus his pride, youth, pig and rattletrap bike. We're both grinning and puffing in a dead heat at the Karonga roundabout.

Malawi's slogan is "The Warm Heart of Africa". It can certainly be hot; the gismo on the handlebars reads 110F at noon this mid-October day as we steam along the Lakeshore Highway. The people here are renowned for their friendliness, which is the main justification for the Tourist People here. cation for the Tourist Board's claim. The edge is slightly taken off it for us by the constant shriek of "Azungu!" (white people) from sharp-eyed kids racing to the roadside to witness the passing of two crazy foreigners on

It's not the innocent racism of the

"Azungu!" that grates; it's the "Give me money" that invariably follows. But for every one of these cries, there is a smiling, enterprising barefoot child refuelling us with bananas, samosas, tomatoes. mangoes, doughnuts, peanuts. Thirty years ago, I juddered up and

down the corrugated dirt roads of this lovely country in a Land Rover, but probably had much less confact with ordinary Malawians. Cycling, even in such heat, has one huge thirst-induced advantage. At every village we eagerly look out for the women at the borehole pump, or a Coke crate by the door of a shop, or - best of all - a tea room with the kettle steaming on a small charcoal fire to one side. Mud walls, thatched roof, small window apertures, these are dark, blissfully cool places. Inside, several friendly villagers make room for us on the wobbly benches.

The smiling, welcoming owner fills our cups from her huge enamel teapot, pouring boiling water from a height through a jumbo plastic strainer full of tea leaves. I thought I hated strong, ultra-sweet tea but this is nectar.

Starting from Malawi's northern

border on the Songwe river, we have 500 miles of blue water alongside us to the beautiful peninsula of Cape Maclear in the south. The lake - so wide that most days you can only just discern the Tanzanian mountains the other side 40 miles away – is constantly tempting. Not that it is easy to take a dip; the foreshore is the workplace for countless canoe fishermen. It is also the village laundry, playground, source of

fresh water and main drain. The last time I travelled the length of the lake was aboard the 600-ton motor vessel Ilala. In those days, it was thought that there were fish enough down there to feed the nation. At Nkhata Bay crowds gather to give a weekly welcome to the same, newly painted, Ilala, now steaming through waters that are in danger of being fished to death.

Tourism is coming slowly to Malawi. One benefit of Dr Hastings Kamuzu Banda's 30-year rule has been the network of good tarmac roads covering the country. Beach lodges, motels and campsites are springing up along this amazingly traffic-free lakeside road.

Many of these are delightful oases of comfortable, tented or thatched chalet accommodation on peaceful, sandy paw-paw- or palm-fringed beaches.
The food is generally good and, if the generator is started early enough, the beer is cold, too. All for just a few

It's not all smooth tarmac yet. At Livingstonia we have a rest day and push the bikes uphill to visit the Mission set up more than a hundred years ago. I regret not studying the map more closely. The sign "Bends for 16 kilometres" should have been a reasonable clue. It is a punishing 3,000ft climb to the top. The mountain is useded but the top. The mountain is wooded but in the leafless dry season the bare branches provide only thin slivers of feeble shade. Women overtake us carrying on their heads great bundles of wood which would flatten our tyres.

The climb is worth it to sense the calm of this cool mountain-top seat of learning which has contributed so much talent to Central Africa. Below are the gleaming tin roofs of Livingstonia. The Mission Church, the Stone House, the hospital and the clois-

By Catherine Barr

The elderly man opposite nudged his wife. "Did you

see that, dear? Four vans

just passed the window. One

was of them was red." His

wife's fixation with her Rice

Krispies wavered only slightly. Perhaps she didn't have them

at home. Only the local radio station and the crunch of

cereal invaded the silence

after that – until the landlady

burst in with an announce-

ment that the bacon wasn't

option, which looked a hit

odd. She was out of Linda

McCartney's sausages. All in

Bosnia, according to the news.

We were mutually, silently, eternally grateful that we'd

had supper in Ennerdale's local pub the night before.

This was day two of our 210-mile coast-to-coast cycle trip from St Bees in Cumbria

to Robin Hood's Bay on the

east coast. The bikes were

about to face their first moun-

tain. This was the bit our

guidebook (The Coast-to-

Coast Ride, Future Books

£12.99) described as having

850ft climbs, bike on back. I felt some comfort in believing

that this was the only part where we would have to

to buy a lighter bike outdid

any other feeling.

It was the vegetarian

really bacon.

Livingstone's Lake, are all set among iacaranda, hibiscus, frangipani, poinsettia, bougainvillaea and eucalyptus.
Here was another surprise – the new
freedom with which the groups of students, since last year's multi-party elections, debate Politics and Life, Remembering my previous time here, this

openness is amazing.
It amazes an older generation of Malawians, too. We turn off the lakeshore road on another day to visit a friend I worked with 30 years ago. A small boy demands no money for the privilege of pedalling furiously ahead

to show us the way.

My former colleague is now the head man in his village. As we relax in the shade, he expresses his great satisfaction that, in his old age, he is able to entertain even Azungu without the police wanting to know what is being discussed. He and many of my Malawian friends spent time in prison for their

And what else has changed? Women still carry huge shiny metal buckets of water on their heads for miles, till the

The best off-road bike in the world is no escape

from a bull that fancies your red socks

tered secondary school overlooking fields with their babies wrapped to their backs in colourful cocoons, pound the maize, while the men still seem to do most of the talking and drinking. Is education for women taken more seriously nowadays? I wonder. "Ah, yes", my friend sighs "they must be given an equal chance. You see, the world has been turned upside down now and the women are very strong."
His wife brings us tea and later one

of their shy teenage grand-daughters collects the tray. Both curtsy deeply and lower their gaze, retiring to rush mats laid out under a large evergreen mango tree a discreet 50 yards away. Here, four generations - women, girls and babies - cook and weave and talk as has forever been the way. The timeless scene is disturbed by a large bird which swoops over a frantic hen to carry off one of her five scattering chicks. "Careless woman!" tuts the old man.

> Tim Neale was Head of Programmes, Malawi Broadcasting Corporation, from 1964 to1967. He is currently cycling from Nairobi

Win a Ski holiday to Keystone, Colorado with the XINDEPENDENT

Plus K2 skis and snowboards to be won

Today is the final day of our Extreme the Fur neck warmer great for mountain tops and bus stops! lease of Warren Miller's new ski film -Endless Winter, we've teamed up with Black Diamond Films to bring you your own taste of extreme skiing.

Our exclusive first prize is a seven day holiday for two in the majestic mountains.

tains of Colorado, USA. You'll be staying in the top ski resort of Keystone which offers world-class accommodation plus the superb experience of night skiing. Not only that, but with your interchangeable lift ticket you'll be able to take to the slopes of Keystone, Breckenridge and Arapahoe Basin. Spoilt for choice you'll be able to ski and snowboard through champagne powder snow glistening beneath deep blue Colorado

For our next six winners, we have a fabulous range of K2 skis and snowboards to choose from. The four ski models available are the FX 11.2 from the Adrenalin series; MSL10.0 from the Attack series; 5500 CS from the Unlimited series and the 5500 NS from the ladies Unlimited series. If you'd like to try your hand at snowboarding then you could be surfing on K2's Dart Freestyle snowboard or the Eldorado 164 Extreme and Freeriding snowboard.

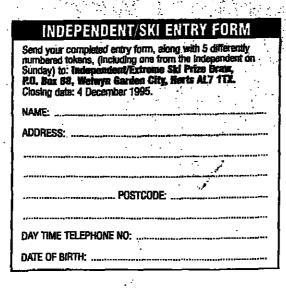
Twenty-four readers will receive a pair of Vail Regulator Goggles, from Smith, the number one brand in the UK. These goggles feature an advanced anti-fog system, perfect for the serious skier. Fifty readers will receive a Tur-



Also available are three hundred copies of Warrea Miller's video Born to Ski. Destined to take your breath away, it features extreme skiing at its best. Another seven winners will each receive a case. of Labatt's Blue Beer.

How to enter: To enter our prize draw you must collect five differently numbered tokens from the seven we have published this week in the Independent on Sunday and the Inde-pendent. One token must come from the Independent on Sunday. Today we print our final token, Token 7, plus another entry form which you need to complete and send in with you takens. Rules are as pre-viously published.

For further information on the Extreme Ski Cinema Tour and your nearest venue, call 0171 240 4071. Tickets are available for £4.99 in advance or £5.99 on the door. For information on new low earfare packages (from £325) to Keystone and Breckenridge, Colorado simply call 0800 891772.







SMITH

A few illusions were shattered in those first few days, such as the lure of downhills. What motivates me up a bill is imagining the feeling of coming down. The views, the peace. However, the first part of the descent into Wasdale was unrideable. Bikes and riders were scratched and separated in a crashing descent

over a stream of boulders.

The other mistake was that

having made it, we scoffed at the next hill. We laughed about having time for a bath before supper. It was one of those false summits that you least expect. We got lost and crashed down off the moor hours later, shuddering with "rock shock".

After looking over our muddied maps, the couple greeting us at the B&B that shoulder the load. We filled our water bottles with an isotonic drink more often gulped by bronzed athnight announced that we had letes. Rasping for breath and "hard day tomorrow". balancing bicycles and pan-Our ride over Watna Scar niers an hour later, the desire

the next day was a hard one. An explosion of hailstones sent us racing for shelter and then hurrying into the bicycle shop in Ambleside. We spent a fortune on heavy-duty wetweather gear - and it never

rained again on our trip.
Incredibly, our city limbs started easing into the pace and as the mountains rounded into the Yorkshire Dales, we realised we were doing all right, and were nearly half way through the trip. Bright berries of rowan

trees stood out dramatically

against the autumn landscape. Cold air filled our frantically expanding lungs, but failed to get through our Gortex gear. We felt good, and all the better, I should admit. for a night at a hotel with a whirlpool bath and a washing service. Pride to the winds, we were

heaving our bicycles before us the next day when we were rounded on by a blur of Lycra. These bikers were doing the trip in just four days, they said. We assured them that we too were "doing" every inch of the way. You don't need pink Lycra to get you over a mountain, we thought. We passed them later as they had lunch in the back of their support car. Must have forgotten to mention it, I suppose,

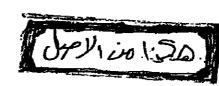
One drama in Yorkshire was the bull. The best off-road bike in the world is no escape from a bull that funcies (or might fancy) your red socks. Hauling our bikes and packs over three stone walls to avoid

the issue was, according to my more daring cycling partners, a ridiculous and unnecessary business. I would have carried my bike up a mountain to avoid that animal.

The riding got easier. We got off less and the mountains disappeared. Our carefully weighted packs were crammed with the two rounds of sandwiches, Club biscuit and apple - packed lunches supplied by the B&Bs. After a week in (and out of) the saddle, we overshot the turning for the hilltop view of Robin Hood's Bay that marks the end of the route. But we were head-on for the North Sea at the bottom of our final descent. According to the guidebook, we were supposed to dip our wheels tri-umphantly in the water. A few wide-cyed tourists braced themselves for what appeared to be a suicide pact. One mile more and it might have

Pedalling their wares This selection of companies offers cycling holidays in Britain

Bicycle Beano (01982 560471): Wales Cotswold Cycling Co (01242 250642): Cotswolds Country Lanes (014251 655022): Cotswolds and Wiltshire Pedal for Pleasure (01453 762233): Cotswolds. Anglo-Dutch Sports (0181-289 2808): Holland Rough Tracks (01249 816665): off-road in France Susi Madron's Cycling for Softies (0161-248 8282): Breton Bikes (00 33 96 24 86 72): Cycle-camping in



3

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Money Wardings.

By far the most expensive hills that British chancellors tend to land us with are not changes in taxation, but macroeconomic

■he run-up to the Budget is normally one of the duller periods in the markets. It was as true when the Budget was held in the spring as it is now that it is held in the autumn. The City rarely tries to anticipate the details of a

After all, the Chancellor does hold most of the cards.
Apart from Nigel Lawson's decision to abolish tax relief on ife insurance premiums 10 years ago, which was accurately forecast by one leading daily newspaper, it is a long time since there has been a seriously accurate pre-Budget leak that would have been profitable to act on in advance.

True, the parameters of some humdrum things, such as the increases in rates of duty on beer, eigarettes and petrol. can usually be safely taken for granted. But those that tend to really hurt, like the imposition of VAT on electricity and gas, are chosen by chancellors precisely because they are effectively difficult to circumvent. There is nothing easier, after all, in a fiscal crisis than to

alternative. It is only capital taxes that tend to be truly discretionary, since those who have to pay them are usually smart or rich

plonk an extra tax on some-

thing for which there is no real

enough to know how to avoid them. This year there is unlikely to be anything to fear on this score, given the Prime Minister's commitment to trying to phase out both capital gains tax and inheritance tax

Of course, by far the most expensive bills British chancellors tend to land most of us with are not changes in taxation, but mistakes in macroeconomic policy.

Unlike marginal changes in duty on beer or fags, a serious misjudgement on the direction of the economy can have a hugely adverse effect on the level of growth in the economy, or on inflation or interest rates - three key variables among the pundits. Estimates that have the capacity to impoverish all of us. In fact, this looks like being one of those years when most investors can approach the Budget in a relatively sanguine frame of mind.

The stock market is strong, inflation is still subdued (as this week's impressive retail price index figures confirmed) and both tax cuts and interest rate cuts now look to be on the way - one sooner maybe, the other later.

The biggest issue about the Budget this year is how far Mr Clarke will feel able, or obliged, to encourage extra the succeeding slump, was spending in the economy in greeted at the time as one of



INVESTMENTS

order to try and win the next election for his party.

How much room for manocuvre he has is, as always, the subject of fierce debate range from £2bn to £5bn or

The spin doctors, you can be sure, are already hard at work on the messages to convince us that, whatever the actual changes proposed on the day, it justifies us all starting to feel good again.

A useful rule of thumb, favoured by some of the smartest investors, is that the initial press reaction to a Budget is usually wrong. Thus, Mr Lawson's disastrous giveaway Budget before the 1987 election, which stoked up inflation to 10 per cent and exacerbated

the greatest triumphs the post-Geoffrey Howe's 1981 Bud-

get was famously billed as one of the worst, yet is widely interpreted as a turning point now.

This year, all we know for certain is that the Budget will be made to sound good to voters. Mr Clarke will make sure of that. The true bill will only come

in later, probably after the next election, and may well be less palatable. Even then, this year's Budget will only be one small piece in a general economic and monetary picture that is increasingly geared towards securing victory for the Conservatives at the next election.

Does this all sound too cynical? Maybe, but history teaches investors to count a chancellor's largess with one hand while totting up the longer term consequences with the other. In the short term, this looks like being a Budget that will be good for the stock

Shares tend to like a modcrate pre-election boom. The gilts market may be more wary. but with interest rates set to fall by the end of the year, that too is likely to help valuations in both markets. Investors

should sleep easy. Meanwhile, over the Atlantic, a much more impor-

tant budgetary process looks to be afoot. The showdown between President Bill Clinton and the Republican majority in Congress is grand political theatre. Large chunks of the Federal government machine were closed down this week with some 40 per cent of

employees sent home. The Statue of Liberty was closed to visitors, and the White House, poor souls, had to make do with just one chef on duty, instead of four. Most economic statistics will not appear until the Budget dispute is resolved.

The Treasury has avoided defaulting on its debts for the moment. But only by dint of 'slicking plaster" devices, such as suspending payments in two Federal government pension funds - "doing a Robert Maxwell," as Robert Aspinall, Panmure Gordon, jokingly dubbed it this week.

How long it can continue to do so is not clear, though the consensus is that these measures could hold the line until Christmas, if the dispute lasts that long.

The markets have convinced themselves that the struggle in America for control of the budget process is unlikely to lead to the US government defaulting on its debt obliga-

It would indeed be an astonishing turn-up for the books if it did. The US government is the linchpin of the world financial system, and the yield on its bonds is one of the key factors affecting interest rates around the world.

The US bond yield would certainly rise it there was even the slightest suspicion that the US might welsh on its obligations. With world interest rates already at historically high level in real, or inflation adjusted terms, the bill for fiscal irresponsibility would then certainly spill over here.

On the other hand, if the result of the current stand-off in Washington is a genuinely workable agreement that goes even part of the way towards reducing the US budget deficit, then that is certainly a prize well worth going for. the market strategist at broker There is a well-documented correlation between the level of government deficits and interest rates.

Whatever the outcome of the shenanigans in Washington, the chances are that it will end up having a much bigger impact on investors here than anything Mr Clarke comes up with at the end of the month. A lasting solution to the interminable budget crises in the US could actually do more for shares here than the Chancelfor possibly could.

Third World gamble

Investing in the debt of developing countries page 26

The management

The people who take decisions with your money page 27

Running for cover

The battle for your car insurance premiums page 28

Premium jobs

Occupations that mean you must pay more for insurance page 29

How 460 real ale connoisseurs have put money where their mouths are

By Clifford German

Dutting your money where ment Club is happy to make the Star pub in Cheadle, money for its investors, but Cheshire, but took a quantum cated drinkers of real ale. They are members not only of the Campaign for Real Ale but also of the Camra Investment Club, in which they pool their funds and buy shares in small breweries and pub chains that make and sell real ales.

Like the ethical investment trusts that will not buy shares in companies that create pollution and exploit the environment, the Camra Invest- up one evening in the bar of

significance for 460 dedi- there are some things it will not do. The club will never support a takeover bid for a real ale brewer or for a pub chain that supports the sale of real

> It also opposed the recent Boddington chain on the grounds that Boddington pubs traditionally favour real ales. The club traces its origin to

the Star Investment Club, set

leap in 1989 and is open to all 46,000 members of Camra.

It is still small beer in money terms but its active members contribute a regular amount of anything between £5 and £83 month, which channels Greenall takeover bid for the £7,000 a month into the pool.

It has holdings worth around £350,000 invested in shares in about 30 listed companies, including Adnams, Fuller's, Hyde's. Jennings. Joseph Holt, Marston's, Morand Youngs.
The club has small stakes in

two of the major brewers. Allied Domecq and Bass, and also in Wetherspoons and Regent Inns, the specialised pub chains that sell rather than brew real ales.

The investment portfolio is currently showing a profit of about 15 per cent above cost, with the small brewery sector enjoying the benefits of a long hot thirsty summer, but the investments in Brent Walker. who wish to sell out.

land, Shepherd Neame, Vaux Ascot Holdings and United Breweries are looking a bit

> Investors contribute for as long as they wish, 5 per cent of the investment (up to a maximum of £1 a month) goes to cover administration and bank charges, and there is twiceyearly 0.5 per cent management charge on the fund. The net value of the investments is recalculated every month to fix a single price for the units to be allocated, and for members

Dividends are reinvested but the club organises regular visits to the breweries where it has bought shares. The last trip was to the Ann Street Brewery in Jersey on 9 November.

The club is run by Neil Kellett, a partner in the Manchester-based firm of chartered accountants Snow. Kellett, which is a member of IMRO, the regulatory body for investment managers

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Gambling on Third World debt

By Clifford German

enjoy a calculated gamble are being offered, later this month, a stake in Sovereign Debt Trust, a new Dublin-based investment ing Asset Management and part-financed by ING Bank. The new trust will invest in bonds and loan stocks issued by Third World countries, especially in Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe. Its sponsors claim that it will be less risky than trusts investing in the shares of companies listed in emerging markets, on the less than wholly reassuring grounds that a

lapse would also knock share prices and could wipe out many companies altogether.

Investors willing to invest for its 10-year life may face trust sponsored by brokers some sleepless nights if there Greig Middleton, run by Bar- are too many re-runs of the crisis that struck the Mexican economy last February and rippled round the emerging economies, but if the process of integrating them into an expanding low-inflation world economy suffers nothing worse than the occasional panic, then the returns could be far greater than in devel-

borrow up to 20 per cent in financial collapse would ceraddition to the capital that tainly knock bond prices, but investors subscribe, in order there would always be some to gear up its investment

money will always be invested in Brady bonds, the name given to debt stock issued by 15 developing-country gov-ernments (mainly in Latin America) to refinance bank loans on which they had defaulted in the Eighties. The bonds were issued as part of a package negotiated with individual debtor countries. Part of their debt was excused in return for accepting tough new rules to promote the private sector of their economies, and agreeing to run their economies respon-

The trust will be able to ket is very liquid.

nvestors who positively residual value, while a coliibly. More than \$140bn (£90bn) worth of bonds are currently traded and the mar-

> So far none has defaulted again, but Brady bonds issued by countries like Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Venezuela, Poland and Nigeria are only rated B or BB by international credit agencies like Standard & Poor's. In other words they are below investment grade. They fell by as much as 20 per cent early in 1994 after the US signalled an upturn in its interest rates, and fell a further 20 per cent in the first quarter of 1995 after the collapse of the Mexican peso.

Nigeria's Brady bonds fell by 10 per cent last week after the government defied world opinion by executing Ken Saro-Wiwa. But most Brady bonds are denominated in US dollars, carry a good rate of interest linked to the London market rate for dollars, or were issued at a substantial discount, or both, and some are backed by an element of collateral in the form of US Treasury bonds held by the emerging governments. When their economies

prosper, and when US interest rates are falling, the positive impact on Brady bonds is magnified. Over the last five years total returns including capital and income have been running around 100 per cent, compared with a 60 per cent cumulative return on US Treasury bonds. The average rate of return has been around 14 per cent plus a capital gain of 4 to 5 per cent, develop. The minimum subproducing overall returns of scription will be \$10,000 or up to 18 per cent a year, comon Treasury bonds.

up to 15 per cent of the fund into a Pep package.

bonds issued by emerging country governments, and up to 5 per cent in bonds that are in default but can still be bought and sold, often at big discounts to their nominal value. Many Russian loans are in default, but they represent excellent value if the Russian economy comes good, according to Michael Mabbutt at BAM, who will be in charge of the fund. A maximum of 15 per cent can also be invested in debt denominated in local currencies. where nominal yields can be enormous, but so can the rate at which the currency depreciates against the dollar.

The portfolio will be spread across 15 to 20 countries and 30-odd different stocks, and will be traded quite actively. The initial expenses will depend on the amount raised but if the target of £50m is reached they should not be more than 3 to 3.5 per cent. including a 1.5 per cent commission for financial advisers who introduce investors. The initial charge to investors will be not more than 3 per cent, and the annual management charge 0.95 per cent.

The trust is expected to appeal to institutions and to high net worth individuals in the US, UK, Europe and the Middle East. Being based in Dublin the trust will pay no corporation tax or gains tax, and it is expected to pay an annual dividend of 11.5 per cent, payable quarterly, and yield 14 per cent a year if held to redemption. If the market is depressed when the trust comes to the end of its planned life in 2005 it will probably be converted into a longer-term asset, according to David Thomas at Greig

Middleton. Shareholders can take dividends in cash, elect for new shares, or have their dividends reinvested in existing shares, a device that would allow the managers to buy up shares overhanging the market and reduce any discount to asset value that might pared with around 6 per cent company the trust qualifies as a single company Pep and The managers can also put investors can put a full £6,000



loose change

Mortgage discounts with a free-fee alternative

IrstMortgage is offering discounts of 3.25 per cent for two years, and 2.25 per cent for three years, relative to the average standard vari-able rate of the top five building societies (currently 7.98 per cent). A fee-free alternative is on offer to borrowers who take a 1 per cent lower discount. Loan periods are a minimum of 10 years, a maximum 75 per cent loan to value and the discount is repayable in full for redemptions within five years.

Alliance & Leicester has extended the 5.5 per cent dis-count on its standard variable mortgage rate until January 1997, its 2.75 per cent discount until January 1998 and its 2 per cent discount until January 1999. Rates apply to a maximum 75 per cent loan to value. Discounts for higher loans to value are slightly higher. They come with a £200 cashback. free valuation until 16 December and a year's free unemployment insurance for loans completed by 31 December.

Royal Bank of Scotland now offers loans up to 95 per cent of valuation at 5.75 per cent until 11 February next year, 6.45 per cent until 11
February 1998, 7.19 per cent
until 1999, 7.95 per cent to
2001 and 8.75 per cent until 13
February 2006, with penalties
in the first four five in the first four, five, five, six and 10 years respectively.

Fixed rates in an offshore Guernsey account

per cent to 31 January 1998: 6.5 per cent to 31 January 1997 in its offshore Guernsey account. Interest is taxable for UK residents; minimum investment is £5,000.

Johnson Fry is launching a new Venture Capital Trust investing at least 75 per cent of its assets in shares traded on the Alternative Investment Market. The target yield is 5 per cent tax-free, which grosses to over 20 per cent for investors who can take advan-tage of all VCT tax reliefs.

Swiss Life is offering three, five and seven-year guaranteed income bonds giving 5.7, 6.2 and 6.5 per cent respectively on amounts between £5,000 and £50,000; extra 0.2 per cent for larger amounts.

CU care plan offers guaranteed benefit

Commercial Union is offer-ling guaranteed lifetime benefit to over-65s who buy its long-term care plan with a single premium. Until now longterm care insurance has had a review clause that entitled the insurer to review premiums and benefits if claims experience warranted it.

Royal Bank of Scotland is offering an interest and charge-free £300 overdraft for the first two months for anyone moving a current account from another bank. NatWest Bank is offering a free fact sheet, "Pensions for Women", outlining state pen-sion entitlements for women and the pros and cons of com-

Dirmingham Midshires is Doffering investors fixed rates of 7.25 per cent gross until end-January 1900 6.75 land. That should have read until end-January 1999, 6.75 Royal Bank of Scotland.

pany and personal pensions. Call 0800-255200.

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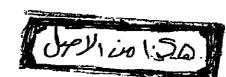
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The fund manager's recipe for success: buy when the market crashes

By Alison Eadie



Fund of knowledge: Michael Hart, who has managed the Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust since 1969

breed, yet their decisions are crucial to the unit and investment trusts far higher. They were. into which small savers pour their cash. How do they make their decisions? How much scope for flair and outperformance is there given the various funds they manage?

how they do their job. Foreign & Colonial Investment Trust, the first public investment trust, has remained true to its objectives since its faunch in 1868. It now has £1.6bn of assets, an army of loyal small investors, attracted by the monthly savings scheme, who make up 49 per cent of the total shareholding, compared with the average for listed companies

Do they sometimes get it

badly wrong? Today secs the

start of a new series asking

managers of leading funds

Michael Hart, chairman of Foreign & Colonial Management, who has been manager of the trust since 1969, says its style is to be slightly contrarian. We are prepared to buy into difficult markets in the expectation that they will recover." So far the strategy has paid off. In the prolonged bear

of 17 per cent.

fund managers are panies that were on price stage at the start of the 1970s. mostly an anonymous earnings multiples of around. He met Sir Owen Green, who 5 and yields of 10 per cent. It bought into those companies performance of the in the expectation that in five personal equity plans, years their ratings would be

The same strategy was adopted in the stock market crash of 1987. "We increased our gearing and bought into the crash," says Mr Hart, Last year it nibbled away at bonds. feeling that inflation fears were overdone.

The trust has also handsomely outperformed the FT All-Share Index since the late 1980s, helped by the narrowing of the discount to net assets. Its shares are now at a discount of under 1 per cent.

Not everything goes to plan, however, and Mr Hart concedes he has had some nervous moments. There was a 30-month period of underperformance in the early 1980s, "We do also back a few dogs occasionally," he admits. In the first half of this year

F&CIT's worst-performing stocks were Eurotunnel, which showed a 38 per cent decline, and Eastern Group, which was down 16 per cent. Hanson's bid for Eastern has changed the outlook for the electricity company but the Eurotunnel situation looks dire, admits Mr Hart. By contrast, Mr Hart's most sucmarket of 1974, F&CIT drew cessful investment was BTR, up a list of good-quality com- which he spotted at an early built up the industrial conglomerate in the 1970s and 1980s, liked what he saw and bought shares. BTR is still F&CIT's fifth largest equity holding, although some shares were sold as a precautionary measure when Sir

Owen retired. Meeting management is an important element of picking und holding stocks, says Mr Hart. He likes to see the directors of the companies he invests in once a year to make sure everything is on track.
"We are fundamental

investors," he explains. "We look at all yardsticks, like share price to earnings ratios, yields and cashflows, take a view on management and take advantage of cuphoria and gloom in markets."

Mr Hart, whose expertise is the UK, relies on input from the Japanese yen in the first his F&C colleagues for the half of this year, which initially US. Japanese. European, did not work out well as the Asian and Latin American parts of the portfolio.

often done through another to net asset value. At the end F&C trust, like F&C Emerging Markets Investment Trust. cent of the trust's assets were F&CIT keeps more than 40 in Japan, but its currency per cent of its assets in the exposure to Japan was only 9 UK to ensure it meets its target of growing the dividend faster than inflation and to be around £85m. tax efficient.

the trust has played currency markets to good effect. "We do it through loans," Mr Hart says. If we want to reduce exposure to the dollar, we borrow dollars and put them to work in another area."

yen appreciated against sterling. However, the 25 per Investment in the more cent fall in the yen in the secvolatile, smaller markets is ond half has provided a boost of September some 13 per per cent. Yen borrowings have shrunk from £130m to

The ability to borrow in Since the ending of times of inflation and rising exchange controls in 1979, stock markets is also a plus. says Mr Hart. "The combination of currency and gearing has made quite a contribution to the trust over the years."

The trust was one of the carliest into Japan in the early 1960s, went into Hong Kong.

F&CIT took a big bet on Thailand and other Asian markets ahead of the pack, and made forays into Latin America before it became fashionable.

More recently it has invested in South Africa through five blue chip stocks and is presently sizing up Russia. "We could make a move there before too long."

New moves are carefully weighed because F&CIT invests for the long term. It has holdings in some 250 stocks held on average for five years. Some have been held

for 30 years.

Mr Hart reads investment publications widely, but places no great faith in gurus or theories. "It is a question of common sense and taking advantage of the excesses of the market," he maintains.

A gem of a purchase

Invest in old jewellery, not new. By John Andrew

Ajewellery as a gift this Christmas? If so, you could do far better buying good antique or period pieces than purchasing brand new. Not only is the quality likely to be better, but there can be significant price advantages. For example, a one-carat solitaire diamond ring that retails new at £4,000, could be pur-chased for half this sum at what you pay." Beauty is cerauction, or from a dealer.

One of the reasons why old jewellery is a better buy is of supply and demand at aucthat new pieces attract VAT at 17.5 per cent. Pieces sold by private vendors at auction do not. Old jewellery sold by dealers only attracts VAT on their profit margin.

The cost of manufacturing old jewellery has also been absorbed by a previous generation. Today its value is determined purely by supply and demand in the market. Brand-new pieces retail at a price that covers manufacturing costs and provides a profit to the maker and retailer. The result is a retail price considerably above that at which the items sell on the secondary market. Disappointed vendors of jewellery bought new a few years previously discover this to their cost when they decide to sell.

On the other hand, items purchased on the secondary market have a far greater potential of retaining their value. Indeed, it is possible that over time this could even increase. For example, Mark

re you thinking of giving Evans of Bentley & Co in New Bond Street has recently repurchased a cased set of five Fabergé miniature nephrite Easter eggs, which he sold in the 1960s for £150. This year he paid the original purchaser £6,500.

As David Warren of Christie's neatly replied when asked if jewellery was a good tainly in the eye of the beholder and the interaction tion can result in some extraordinary saleroom prices.

For example, at Bonhams in September, two equally determined bidders battled over a pair of cufflinks in the form of well-modelled owl heads set with small diamond eyes. It was anticipated they would realise £1,000. They sold for £2,760, including buyer's premium.

On the day of the sale, an identical pair, save that the offered at £850 by Anthea AG Antiques at Gray's antiques centre in London. A prudent buyer will seek

jewellery from both dealers and auctions. Both can yield good buys. Equally, jewellery from both sources can be pricey in relation to the market as a whole. Putting a value on a piece

of jewellery is a complex matter. Quality is of paramount importance. This embraces both the craftsmanship of the jeweller and the size and favourites with buyers.



Fancy piece: Not for the stony-broke - the Begum Blue, a heartshaped deep blue diamond sold for £5m by Christie's this week

quality of the stones used. very complex area and requires considerable exper-

Condition is also important as damage detracts from eyes were rubies, were being an item's value. Alterations also have a negative affect. but pieces in original cases sell for far greater sums than those that are not in their contemporary boxes.

"Buy only what you like," is the advice of Alexandra Rhodes of Sotheby's. Should you therefore want to sell at some time in the future, quality pieces will be easier to realise. Signed pieces by Cartier, Boucheron, Van Cleef & Arpels, and other international names, are firm

If you have to view jew-The grading of stones is a ellery as an investment, the secret is to anticipate what will be sought tomorrow. My tip is the 1970s work of Andrew Gima, which typifies

For a copy of The

Bentley Collection, an illustrated compendium of fine jewels for sale, telephone 0171 629 0651. Several good iewellers are at Grav's antiques centre, 58 Davies Street, London Wi. The Fine Art and Antiques Fair will be held at Olympia (London) from 15 to 21 November. For 0171 370 8188.

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SCOTTISH WIDOWS

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Your bookshelves may hold hidden treasure

By Frances Howell

your bookshelves bulge with your late great aunt's favourite reading, then they may also be lined with gold. Second-hand books can be valuable. surprisingly Although the principal rule of the second-hand, or antiquarian, trade is: "A rare book

is one you don't have", you might still find the odd nugget, particularly if great aunt Maud had a taste for scouring second-hand bookshops, or house clearances.

In ascending order of importance, age, absolute rarity, beauty, and the importance of the text have the greatest bearing on a book's value. Associations can also be important. A selection of bible readings, published in 1850 and which was worth about 50p in its own right, was recently sold for £1,000, because it was inscribed to a sick soldier in the Crimea, and signed "F. Nightingale".

Six late-18th century Gothic novels, listed as being "really horrid" by a character in Northanger Abbev, are of little literary merit. However, Jane Austen fans are prepared to pay an arm and a leg for any surviving copies.

A book will not be valuable important literary work. Even an old book may be one of many copies around today. As a general rule, however, any pre-1800 text, provided that it is rare, will be worth some-

sought-after. For example, a presentation copy of The Saturic Verses should fetch considerably more than its cover price, as the text has become significant, and its antiquarian books fairs, such author became disinclined to as the Provincial Book Fair, court publicity. In contrast, it which travels around the is said to be difficult to find a country, and is held at the copy of Baroness Thatcher's Russell Hotel, London, once

memoirs that is not signed. Some of the very earliest Penguins are worth a few around the bookshops in Cecil pounds. For example, the first Penguin. Maurois biography of Shelley, is worth £80 to £100 in decent condition. A first edition of Naked Lunch will also be in paperback, and

is worth around £200. back, and there is a market for unless you are a prospective these usually slim volumes. A customer.

copy of W H Auden's first book of poetry was published by Stephen Spender. The book, bound in coloured paper, would fetch several hundred pounds.

A few coffee spots, or one missing page can cut a book's value dramatically. At the other end of the scale, 20th century texts can be worth four figures by dint of a dust jacket, especially if it is a pop-

For example, a first edition of Ian Fleming's first Bond novel, Casino Royale, in its dust jacket could fetch about £2,000 in good condition. An immaculate copy recently sold for \$12,500 (£7,900). However, if the dust jacket is shredded or missing, the value falls to about £100. Similarly, a first edition of The Great Gatsby, which is renowned for its dust jacket, will sell for \$15,000 to \$25,000, depending on condition. Without the dust jacket, it will be worth a 20th of this sum.

If you are interested in collecting for investment, Arthur Freeman of leading antiquarian bookseller Bernard Quaritch, which deals mainly in pre-20th century texts, recommends developing an area simply because it is old and an of expertise that is, as yet, relatively unexplored, and in which you may get a step ahead of dealers. I would be surprised if anybody had yet fully researched, for example, the history of accountancy textbooks, and there are a lot Even recent works can be of them around. The catch is - how much would anyone pay for an accountancy text-

> To develop your knowledge of the field you should go to a month.

You should also browse Court WC1, which deal in 20th century texts. It is also a good idea to read publications such as The Book Collector. available to order from 0181 200 5004.

Don't try to get valuations Several 20th century poets over the phone, it is impossipublished their first volumes ble to value a book without privately, which they often examining it. And don't later disowned. These publi- expect a dealer to take the cations would be in paper- time to make a free valuation,

The way to better motor insurance

Upmarket insurance companies are declaring war on their cut-price brethren. By Clifford German



has no rescue in prospect if they break

insurance market is fighting back against the cut-price insurers that have dominated the market in recent years, helping to drag down premiums. This week Zurich Municipal, the leading direct motor insurer specialising in public sector employees - civil serlike - teamed up with Green

Flag, the third largest operator in

the breakdown market, to add a

free basic breakdown insurance to its standard policies without any increase in premiums. ZM policyholders who break down more than a mile from home will be able to have their cars towed free to a local garage if they cannot be repaired on the

half the cost of being a member of the AA or RAC. The AA has roughly 8 million members, RAC has 5 million and

he top end of the motor some 7 million motorists, around than they once did. Most drivers cover, require cars to be garaged. one in four, have no breakdown cover and depend on being able to call out a local garage, according to Peter Ablett, ZM's mar-

keting manager.
As 8 million cars break down each year, about one in every three cars on the road, it leaves several million motorists facing a vants, teachers, doctors and the stressful and potentially expensive

The purchasing power of the big insurers enables them to buy breakdown services in bulk. Breakdown insurance will likely become a standard part of motor insurance policies within a few years, Mr Ablett says.

Most of the low-cost policies motorists have pursued so enthusiastically in recent years contain spot. In addition, policyholders significant limitations on claims cies. Anyone who wants to be cov-can buy a range of Green Flag and cover. Two-thirds of all UK ered for legal costs can take out breakdown services, including a
Home Call service, a nation-wide
breakdown service including free

motorists have comprehensive
policies, but many "standard"
comprehensive policies exclude car recovery and transport to any- the cost of hiring a replacement where in the UK, and a Europe- car, the legal cost of claiming against other drivers in a dis-puted accident, theft of car radios improved security devices for cost upwards of £30 but can make wide service. All three can be against other drivers in a disbought for £66.63 a year, roughly and stereos, replacement of broken windows and personal accident and medical expenses.

Green Flag about 3 million, but pay themselves, also loom larger cies, including most classic car

accept a modest voluntary excess in order to reduce their premiums. But many low-cost motor policies now insist on a compulsory excess charge of as much as £250, which motorists must meet out of their own pocket in the event of an accident. This effec-

A combination of fewer comprehensive policies and increased competition, especially from the direct-sales insurers, which eliminate both brokers' commissions and branch costs, has led to a welcome fall in average premiums in the last two or three years. Motorists are already able to buy a number of add-ons to supplement the standard no-frills polian Uninsured Loss Recovery policy, which normally costs as little

Alternatively, motorists can their cars. Insurers have traditionally offered lower premiums for cars that are kept in locked Excess charges, which motorists garages, and many specialist poli-

as £8 to £12 a year as an add-on

to a conventional policy.

The AA this week pointed out that motor insurance premiums have begun to fall, reflecting the fall in car crime of around 10 per cent in each of the last two years.

There is no room for complacency, however. The UK remains the car-crime capital of Europe, if not the world. Almost 10,000 tively excludes protection against a much larger number of claims. cars are stolen every week. Three out of 10 are never recovered, and of those that are recovered, three out of 10 suffer more than £2,000

worth of damage.

The insurance industry paid out £700m in claims last year, but many incidents of theft from cars are not reported and the true scale and cost of car crime could be substantially higher. Incidentally, the majority of cars stolen are eight to 10 years old and are stripped to supply the car spares

To counter the costs, some insurers now offer discounts of 5 to 17.5 per cent on premiums for cars fitted with approved safety up their cost in less than two years. Electronic car immobilisers cost around £130 from AA shops, including installation, but can often save up to £100 a year on premiums, according to the AA. It quotes a saving of £105 a year on a basic premium of £470 for a

married woman in south-east

London driving a VW Golf worth

Costs rise to £275 to £350 for combined alarms and immobilisers, but they can pay for themselves in six months on high-risk cars like the Ford Escort RS Turbo. It claims even greater success for the Tracker system, which costs £199 to fit and an annual subscription of £61 a year, and often allows police to home-in on caches of stolen cars.

Another direct insurer, the Leeds-based Privilege Insurance, which caters for non-standard rists, offers discounts of 12.5 per cent on Cobra vehicle security systems. It also offers an average discount of about 10 per cent to drivers who successfully complete Masterdrive, a driver safety course that costs around £50 and lasts about two hours.

Drivers buying used cars can also buy another service from Wiltshire-based HPI Equifax, which for £28.50 will run a check on second-hand cars and provide purchasers with a guarantee of title, or pay out if claims are made within 12 months.

Mar. 17.

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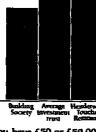
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When it comes to your premiums, you are what you do

By Mark Wood

nsurance companies are constantly looking for ways millions.

How your job affects motor premiums millions. to assess the risk that decides insurance premiums. Admiral, the direct that the colour of the car is a would differ from one occudetermining factor; while pation to another in two dif-ferent examples. its clues, and claims that crashes correlate with birth hold insurance premiums

But for as long as the industry can remember, the occupation of the policyholder has featured on car insurance proposal forms. You may live in the same district, and drive an identical car, but premiums vary dramatically depending on what you do for

affects the cost of household logical factors such as the insurance, and it is beginning age and gender) on what you pay for mortgage protection policies

Occupations prone to sickness, accidents and especially redundancies can pay 20 to 30 per cent above average; from home - such as airline secure occupations are charged similar amounts less than the norm.

affect the cost of motor insurance. Here. Nineties-style regular working hours. political correctness goes out of the window, and happy families stereotypes take over. Miss Mouse, the librarian, is a safe driver; and Mr Glitz, the rock star, will drive his house is unoccupied for long pink limousine into a swimming pool.

Actuaries - those chaps who make accountants look dealer is a high-theft risk, glamorous in comparison decide how much of a risk you nothing to get away with a

represent. car for work - they say - your gain entry. job reflects your lifestyle. While no insurer looks only at occupation to calculate an insurance premium, it continues to be a deciding factor when underwriters agree to falling on to the house, for cover you - or not - and if so example. how much it will cost you.

Journalists, for example, find their premiums loaded because of their job. This is because the "typical" back is pushy in pursuit of a scoop, and quality of security alarms works long, unsocial hours, and follows them by some long, hard socialising. And public relations types, their opposite numbers in the media, are tarred with the same brush.

At one end of the scale the safest professions, in the eyes room semi in Winchester of the insurance underwriters, are clerks, bank managers

At the opposite extreme, musicians and night-club owners are viewed by insurers with deep concern. They are seen as highly emotional pcople who lead stressful and irregular lives, return from their job at dead of night, work amid a high consumption of drink and drugs and probably opt for unusual and attractive cars.

They are expected to have driving incidents that would seriously sully their claims

Also, if the policyholder is famous, insurance companies expect that he or she regularly gives lifts to other household names. An accident that injured a passenger who was a famous actress could have heavy financial repercussions if the accident ended a promising career, and cut off high earnings for life. The cent less for car insurance.

With such a high potential risk, insurers are likely to load the premium. The tables motor insurer, believes (right) show how premiums Your job also affects house-

although the conection is somewhat more tenuous, and occupational premium loadings are relatively small for home and contents cover compared with car insurance. For buildings cover, there is little discrimination among

the professions. Premiums are determined mainly by the size and rebuild Your occupation also costs of the house and geosubsoil on which the house is to have an impact (along with built and the presence of underground springs or mines, so premiums are relatively constant.

There are some exceptions. Occupations that involve frequent or prolonged absences staff, sports professionals, oilrig workers or merchant seamen - are seen to leave their But the biggest differences property more vulnerable to risk than a civil servant with

> These characteristics may not be recognised in a loaded premium, attracting instead policy restrictions, such as a limited theft cover if the periods.

One underwriter might take the view that a fine-art and that thieves may stop at valuable haul - even to the Even if you never use the extent of using explosives to

Likewise, a famous actress may entertain other famous people in her home, which could result in a high hability claim in the event of a tree

For contents cover, occupation can have more effect on premiums. Again, once the usual variables of postcode, number of bedrooms are taken into account, the householder's job can be a factor, influencing the chances of the house being occupied during the day and the prospect of high-value possessions in the house.

For example, on a 3-bedworth £85,000, and with contents worth £30,000, a civil servant would pay £74 for buildings cover and £103 for contents.

A journalist would fare slightly worse at £96 for buildings and £103 for contents. But a rock star would be hammered for £116 and £228 respectively.

Taking another example, on a detached two-bedroom house in Chesterfield, Derbyshire worth £35,000, with contents worth £35,000, the figures would be £112 and £116 for the civil servant. £119 and £228 for the journalist, and £125 and £228 for the rock star.

The good news is that premiums are still going down, and, according to the AA's British Insurance Premium Index, you should now be paying around 5 per cent less for home insurance than this time last year, and about 4 per

BEFORE YOU RENEW YOUR INSURANCE

Restrict the number of drivers on your policy - and keep the under-

25s away. Get a smaller or older car. Fit a security alarm, immobiliser, tracking device or even a simple

steering lock - not only will they get you an insurance discount, they will also reduce the likelihood of the car being stolen or broken into. Opt for a voluntary excess - but remember, you pay the first £100 or £200 of a claim.

Fit locks on all windows and doors. Have a burglar alarm fitted. Get a Neighbourhood Watch scheme going. Have someone who stays at home during the day. Get a large dog.

Leave the car on the street overnight. Accept the first quote you get ~ a broker may be able to get you a better deal than a direct writer, simply because they have access to a greater range of insurers.



A 25 year-old female, living in central London (SWI), with a clean driving record and a Ford Escort 1.4:

Bank worker £395 £395 Solicitor £406 PR officer £427 Journalist £429 £587

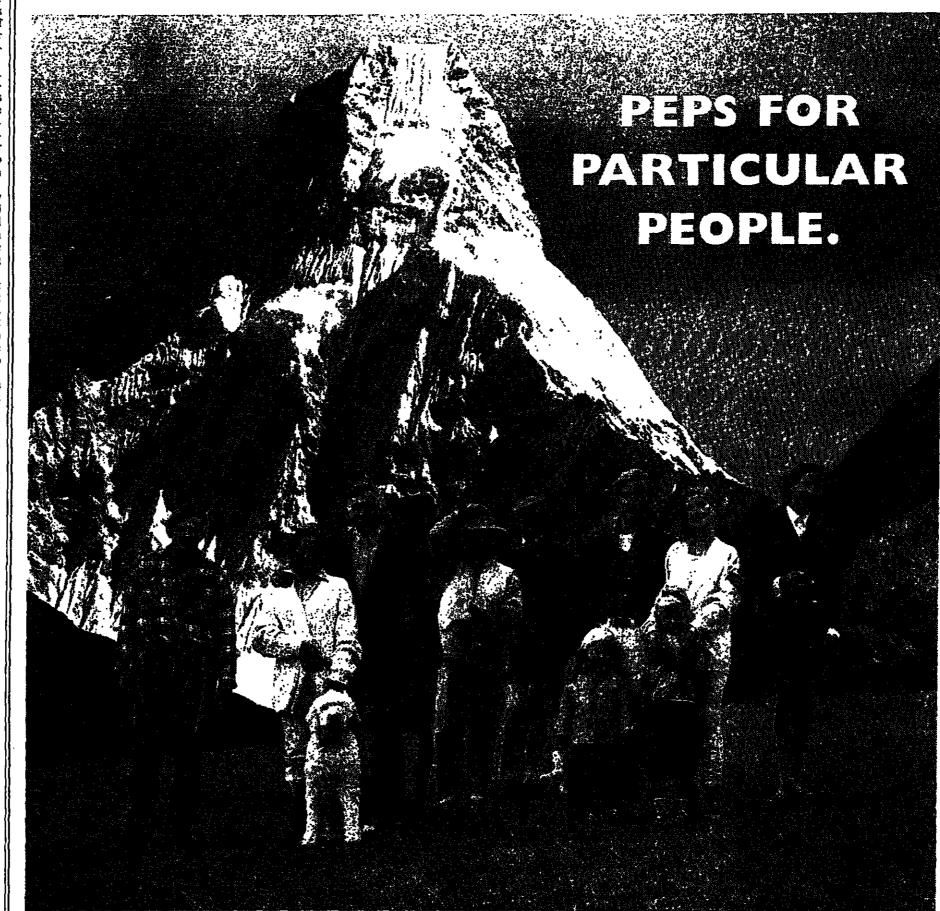
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driving the same Ford Escort:

Bank manager	£168
Teacher	£177
Solicitor	£184
PR officer	£187
Journalist	£200
Model	£281
Actor	£377
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FEAR OF FINANCE **Clifford German**



imployers have spent the last 15 years slaying the union dragon, with a little help from Baroness Thatcher. They have been rewarded by success in holding down wage costs. Even in a recovery, earnings are barely keeping pace with inflation. But what workers have failed to wrest from employers through pressure tactics, the financial services industry is about to try to do by a combination of flattery and cajolery.

IFA Promotion, the umbrella group that represents 15,000 independent financial advisers, this week praised British employers for being among the best in the world, providing £69bn worth of benefits last year, an average of £3,200 for every employee, and 12 per cent of gross national product.

worth of contributions to European standards they get pension funds and more than £23bn in social security contributions, mainly National Insurance payments on tributions. Large companies behalf of their employees. Another £16bn is listed under forces as a short-term benefits in kind, which resource. Smaller companies, includes £5bn worth of cars which are showing growth in and motoring, £3.6bn in subsidised catering, £2.2bn worth of help with house relocation. and £1bn worth of tied housing. A further £7bn is listed under training, while medical and other insurance benefits

amount to less than £1bn. Over the past decade, pension payments have increased

by 50 per cent, social security contributions have roughly doubled, income in kind has quadrupled and training has more than trebled. Benefit payments have grown faster O Sime

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than earnings But the IFA warns that there is no room for complacency. Although the message on declining state benefits is unmistakable, individuals are not coming forward to take up the burden of financing an increasing proportion of future pension, health insurance and long-term care costs in anything like the necessary numbers. A substantial short. fall in provisions seems

IFA Promotion wants to persuade employers that they could, should and will have to assume a bigger share of the burden that the state is The total includes £21bn determined to unload. By away lightly. Unfortunately, employers are not in a mood to increase their share of conincreasingly treat their workemployment, are traditionally less generous than larger companies.

Projections for the next five years suggest thatemployers' contributions to pension, health and welfare provision will actually fall slightly, and that the shortfalls will start to

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FIMIRA

staying in

Television by Gerard Gilbert

by Robert Hanks

Horizon 8pm BBC2. Last summer a cornet smashed into Jupiter and ignited a firestorm the size of Australia. What chance something similar happening here on Earth? (757136).
The Beatles - All Together Now 8,30pm (TV. Beatlemania Mark Two takes off with celebs' memories of the Fab Four and the UK premiere of the video for their "new" single, Free as a Bird" (8391).

Panorama 9.40pm BBC1. Princess Di (above) upstages the Old Firm again as she talks about life, love and everything (266001).

Secret Theatres of the Mind 9.25pm R3.
Michael Ignatieff tries to understand how
abnormal mental states (including schizophrenia, dyslexia and Alzheimer's disease) work

from the inside, with the help of interviews

and (possibly too many) sound effects.

Sportsnight Special 8pm BBC1. And then there was one. Nottingham Forest play Lyonas the last British survivor in the Uefa Cup Without Walls: Unpeeled - the Roman Orgy 9pm C4. Is it true? No heavy indulgence in food, drink and sex? Very disappointing really

Film: Naked (Mike Leigh 1993 UK) 10pm C4. Incendiary performance by David Thewis (above) as a modern angry young man for the 1990s (340773).

Hawaii, Oh Why? 9pm R2. Unforgivable title for a fairly inexcusable feature on the rise and

Hacki Wicki Wacki Woo". Martin Kelner does

some appalling things with ukeleles.

years begins, inevitably, with wartime and postwar rationing (8218).
Modern Times: Man Seeks Woman Spm
BBC2 (above). Take three single men and follow them on the dates they've arranged through the small ads (230483). My Secret Life 9.50pm BBC2. Hot on the heels of tonight's Screen Two, Priest, a real Catholic priest talks about his life as an active homosexual (868483).

Slice of Life 8pm BBC2. New series charting the changes in Britain's food habits over 50

This Happy Breed 10am R4 FM. Pigeon-fanciers - A secret network of 90,000 men, fall of Hawaiian-style popular music, featuring such classics as "Oh How She Could Yacki as this programme rather alarmingly describes them – are the first of three all-male organisations to be subjected to the scrutinies of Jénnifer Holden and her tape recorder.

Public Eye 8pm BBC2. A look at the affair of 32-year-old failed medical student Brian McKinnon - alias 17-year-old schoolboy Brandon Lee (4304). Secret Lives: Edward VIII 9pm C4, Further damning evidence about the current royal youngsters' grand uncle (2575). Film: The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (Curtis Hanson 1992 US) 9.05pm ITV.

(above). Rebecca De Mornay is wonderfully chilly as the vengeful widow pretending to be a suburban nanny (443439). Old Harry's Game 6.30pm R4. Probably the first radio sitcom inspired by Paradise Lost, with writer Andy Hamilton starring as Satan. Nice idea, but it relies too heavily on crowd-pleasing jokes about the torments awaiting

lawyers and estate agents in the hereafter.

Children in Need 7pm BBC1. As always, our advice is to piedge early and go out for the night (89347). Dressing for Breakfast 9pm C4 (above). Beatie Edney plays Louise - single, bright and attractive and looking for Mr Right. Sound familiar? This sitcom even has Ellen's place in the schedules (3453). Film: Night and the City (Jules Dassin 1950 US) 12.30am C4. Film noir set in London, with Richard Widmark as a would-be wrestling promoter (468038).

Print the Legend 10am R4 FM. Part two of Christopher Frayling's excellent series on how film has interpreted history, looks at cinema epics, from moralising Hollywood blockbusters like The Ten Commandments and Ben Hur to the Italian muscleman sagas of the Sixties.

Sunday Television and Radio

BBC₁

- 6.45 Some Girls Do (Ralph Thomas 1969 UK). Cretinous spoof updating Buildog Drummond with the spy-obsessed Sixties (113890), 8.15 Discovering Eve (S) (8905068).
- 8.30 Breakfast with Frost (85838). 9.30 First Light (S) (58838).
- 10.00 See Hear! (S) (72567). 10.30 Sueños World Spanish (S) (1284105). 10.45 This Multimedia Business (S) (7985398).
- 11.00 The 11th Hour (S) (66646). 12.00 CountryFile (S) (66190).
- 12.30 News; On the Record (72161). *
 1.30 EastEnders Omnibus (S) (5955068). *
 2.55 Perry Mason. David Soul guest stars (6427722).
 4.25 The Bookworm. Griff Rhys Jones on Jonathan
- Swift and Maeve Binchy (S) (6532426). * 4.55 The Clothes Show (S) (1609797). * 5.20 The Great Antiques Hunt. In the Cotswolds (S)
- (4406567). * 6.00 News; Weather (756451). *
- 6.20 Local News (371819). 6.25 Songs of Praise. A special children's edition from
- Bendrigg Lodge near Kendall (\$) (150180). *
 7.00 Just William (\$) (3616).
 7.30 Showstoppers. With Robson and Jerome, Bob Monkhouse and Kirn Wilde (\$) (540109). *
- 8.20 Children in Need (S) (891838). *
 8.30 The Vicar of Dibley. The Songs of Praise team come to Dibley (R) (S) (8971). *
 9.00 Final Cut. 3/4. The beleaguered Urquhart has a
- flash of inspiration (S) (193744). * 9.55 News; Weather (737432). *
- 10.10 In Search of Happiness. A Buddhist monk comes up with the most convincing suggestion for the would-be happy – don't look for happiness. You rather wish Angus Deayton had taken this bit of advice four weeks ago (S) (506242). *

 10.50 Heart of the Matter Special. On the 50th anniversary of the Nuremberg Trials, Joan Bakewell chairs a debate from the original
- Bakewell chairs a debate from the original courtroom (216722). 11.40 Plenty (Fred Schepisi 1985 UK). Britain's
- postwar decline seen through the eyes of wartime Meryl Streep. Less preachy than the play, and with some good performances from Charles Dance and John Gielgud (S) (547155). * 1.40 Weather (9761594). To 1.45am.
- REGIONS. Wales: 12.00pm Homeland. 10.10 Kane's Wales, 10.40 In Search of Happiness, 11.20 Heart of the Matter Special, 12.10 Film: Plenty. NI: 2.55pm Now You're Talking. 3.20 Big Al. 3.35 TOTP2. 4.20 Cartoon. 10.10 Tales of Maynooth. 11.05 In Search of Happiness. 11.45 Heart of the Matter Special. 12.35 Inside Uister News. 12.40 Film: Sticky Fingers.

BBC2

- 7.20 Children's BBC: The Adventures of Skippy (1117221), 7.45 Playdays (7595109), 8.05 Casper Classics (8085258), 8.20 Mortimer and Arabel (8099451). 8.35 Jackanory: Make Way Arabel (8099451). 8.35 Jackanory: Make Way for Monsters (7083797). 8.50 Bitsa (6006635). 9.05 The Animals of Farthing Wood (9139703). 9.30 Skeleton Warriors (7144242). 9.55 Travel Bug (7225161). 10.25 Grange Hill (4916242). 10.50 The Queen's Nose (9980906). 11.15 Growing Up Wild. Terry Nutkins on colour in the animal kingdom (S) (1409762). 11.40 Star Trek (R) (4960345). * 12.30 The Sunday Show (S) (8555659). 1.15 The O Zone. Björk talks and Roxette's views on English george (S) (23656432)

- English people (S) (23656432).

 1.30 Regional Programmes (59567).

 2.00 Top Gear Rally Report Day one of the Network Q RAC Rally (S) (71838).

 3.00 TOP Hentl (Barbra Streisand 1983 US).
- Surprisingly bouncy Streisand musical in which the gal disguises herself as a boy in order to get
- an education in a male-dominated East
 European Jewish community (S) (66259155). *
 5.10 Rugby Special. Highlights England vs South
 Africa, Scotland vs Western Samoa, and Ireland
- vs Fiji (7844155). 6.10 Trials of Life. Aggression (R) (S) (613074). *
 7.00 Top Gear Raily Report. Round-up of the first day's action from the Network Q RAC Rally (S)
- 7.35 The Art Marathon. See Preview, p32 (S)
- 8.20 The Money Programme. Investigating whether a possible European directive, forcing manufacturers to label all artificially sweetened products, will have a severe impact on the food and drink industries (802616). *
- 9.00 Victoria Wood as Seen on TV. Comedy from 1986, where Wood was joined by Julie Watters and Patricia Routledge – a welcome chance to see this talented comedienne out of her Hyacinth persona (R) (6161). *
- 9.30 The Mrs Merton Show. The faux-chat show hostess gently ribs Matthew Kelly, Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer, and George Best (S) (30432).
- 10.00 EIGH The Color Purple (Steven Spielberg 1985 US). See The Big Picture, p32 (684161). *
 12.30 EIGH Mrs Cage (Robert Allan Ackerman 1992 US). Respectable housewife Anne Bancroft walks into a police station and confesses to a murder. It ain't that simple of course (3521371).
- REGIONS, Wales: 1.30pm Welsh Lobby, 5.10 Scrum 5. NI: 1.30pm Country Times.

ITV/London

- 6.00 GMTV. 6.00 The Sunday Review. 6.30 News and Sport. 7.00 The Sunday Programme (99529).
- 8.00 Disney Club. The guests are magician Geoffrey Durham, popsters EYC, and EastEnders Dean Gaffney and John Pickard (S) (35057762). *
- 10.15 Link. Car insurance problems for the disabled (S) 10.30 This Sunday. With Paul Heiney and Jenni Murray. Including 11.00 Moming Worship from Emmanuel Church, Stoughton, Guildford (S)
- (31884). * 12.30 Crosstalk (Followed by London Weather) (47722).
- 1.00 News, Weather (23664451). *
 1.10 Jonathan Dimbleby (\$) (5219074).
 2.00 Opening Shot, Children's arts magazine (\$)
- 2.30 The Sunday Match. Southend vs Crystal Palace. George Graham is a guest (63164426). 5.10 Rags to Riches. Rag trade documentary series
- (S) (7737451).
- 5.40 The London Programme (858277). 6.10 London Tonight, Weather (669971). * 6.30 News, Weather (694432). *
- 6.40 Schofield's Quest. Brian Blessed, archaeologists from Liverpool University, and a dowser try to uncover the resting place of King Arthur, What a lark (S) (679890).
- 7.30 Heartbeat. An unexploded wartime bornb is discovered. No such luck, I'm afraid (S) (35600).
- You've Been Framed! Video grief (S) (6567). * 9.00 London's Burning. Fire in a bedsit grief (S) (3703). *
- 10.00 Hale and Pace (S) (16677). *
 10.30 News, Weather (967109). *
 10.45 The South Bank Show. A two-parter this week:
- writer Jonathan Raban and jazz musician Wynton Marsalis (S) (87.1277). *
- 11.45 London Stage 95. Sheridan Morley previews some more plays (765513).

 12.20 Inside Track On... Health. Julio Iglesias, Carol Barnes, Richard Briers and Mandy Smith talk about their health (R) (6292285).
- 1.50 Tenball. Phillip Schofield again, this time with jawachingly dull Big Break clone (R) (S) (9260372).
- 2.35 Sledge Hammer. Sledge investigates the murder of a college cheerleader (7162952).
 3.05 Hollywood Report (R) (S) (51707778). 3.35 Cue the Music. Cue EMF (4561556).
- 4.30 Highdays and Holidays (R) (51412020).
 4.50 Travel Trails. A Welsh gold mine and the Centre for Alternative Technology (86064865).
 5.15 Nite Bites. Tripe (R) (1774339).
 5.30 News (70662). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

- 6.05 Blitz! (R) (S) (7773819). 7.00 The Herbs, A new herb, Miss Jessop, is just too tidy (R) (4896451).
- .15 Lift Off (R) (S) (35277). 7.45 The Great Bong (S) (3853155).
- 8.00 The Baby-Sitters Club (20513). 8.30 Where on Earth Is Carmen Sandiego? (S) (4940155).
- 8.55 Exosquad (S) (4025890). 9.20 Running the Halls (R) (S) (9145364). *
- 9.45 The Pink Panther (S) (4669616).
- 10.00 Aaahh!!!! Real Monsters! (S) (3478600).
 10.15 Saved by the Bell (4912426). *
 10.40 Wise Up. Nine to 14-year-olds create their own reportage (S) (5715242).
 11.15 Rawhide (255180).
- 12.15 Mission Impossible. Plans to rescue Cardinal Vossek are put on ice (432797). *
 1.15 Football Italia. Parma vs AC Millan (60674703).
- 3.30 Seven Thieves (Henry Hathaway 1960 US). Disgraced scientist Edward G Robinson masterminds the heist of the century when he Followed By News Summary and Weather. (61513).
- 6.00 The Persuaders! Spy Joss Ackland plans to
- year trawl through music archives from the
- way into explaining the human need for deception(S) (1345). *
- 11.45 Eller The Vanishing (George Sluizer 1988 Hol). Forget the much lesser American version (also directed by Sluizer) of this terrifying chiller – the original is a taut little gem, cataloguing a man's obsessive search for his girlfriend, who vanished

- hires six hoods to hit a Monte Carlo casino. With Rod Steiger, Joan Collins and Eli Wallach. Directed by Henry Hathaway. C4 premiere.
- 5.30 Hollybaks (R) (S) (600). * publish his memoirs – unless the playboy agents
- can stop him (57155). *
 7.00 Equinox. See Preview, p32 (S) (5161). *
 8.00 Soviet Echoes An American TV producer's threeformer Soviet Union which unearthed thousands
- of hours of unheard pieces. (S) (1109). * 9.00 Witness. Pipped somewhat to the post by the recent Horizon film about lies and lying, Barne Gavin's film uses three real-life private eyes as a
- 10.00 First Poison Ivy (Katt Shea 1992 US). Wayabove average home-invasion thriller in which amoral teenager Drew Barrymore inveigles her way into rich kid Sara Gilbert's home, seduces her dad (Tom Skerritt), and supplants her sick
- mom (Cheryl Ladd) (S) (696180). * into thin air at a motorway service station (908722). To 1.40am.

ITV/Regions

- ARGUA
 As Landon except: 12.30pm Dilemmas (47722), 2.00 Timeson's Country Churches (1068), 2.30 Neck Orti (5422)9871
 5.20 Behind the Palace Walfs (5235600, 5.50 Protoinson (118161), 6.20 Angle News on Survoly (914068), 11.45
 Dilemmas (728971), 12.15am Time Trax (15)952),
 1.15am Film: The Monster Squad (4071594), 2.40am Time
 Album Show (825672), 3.40am Hollywood Report
 (18372339), 4.05am The Chart Show (9677469), 5.005.30 De Medici Kitchen (35136).
- THE FEE/MORSHIRE
 As Landon escape; 12.25pm forts: The Reat Ghostbusters (5859819), 2.00 helphany to Heaven (8468567), 2.55 Film: Seduced (21730161), 4.30 Syne; The Famous Rive (906) forts: The World in Our Gerdens (900), 5.00 The Richard Whiteley Show (9235364), 11.45 New Vestons (72897), 12.15am Que Night (2819020), 12.50am American Gladiators (3777190), 1.45am Zara Dhynn Den (9755933), 1.50am Films Diwate Nubh Na Hare (79497575), 4.20-5.30am Johlinder (2316285).
- CBITRAL
 As Leadon except 2.00pm it's Your Shout (1068). 2.30 The
 Certral Match Lue (85.45.13). 5.00 Winning Sprin: Respect
 (85.46). 5.30 Magnam (45.2590). 11.45 Hollywood Report
 (76.551.3). 12.20pm Film: Di Year Asship (90.33020:41.
 3.05am Cue the Music (63.729.43). 4.05am Jobinder
 (8805265). 5.20-5.30am Assan Eye (4802643).
- ATU As Landon except 12.25pcn West: Batist Box (5760971) Water. Challenge of the Seas (5760971) 2.00 West: Magnum (8468567). Waters Weish Aggndu (1068) 2.30 Waters Gardening Time (2249513) 2.55 West: West Mach Plus (6161432). Water: Soccer Sunday (6161432). 3.55 West. Chilorifs World Cup (6193155). Waters The Shape of Things 5158703. 4.25 West: Behind the Pator Walls (623722). 4.55 West: Amtigues Tital (2732242). Waters: Perfect Pitch (2732242). 5.25 West: Behind the Pator Walls (5:234971). Waters Tellyphonn (7933093). 5.55 West: The Famous Rive (117432). 11.45 Presonen Cell Block H (524548). 12.40em Film: Crystal Heart (22556). 2.40em Hollywood Report (5759138). 3.05em Care the Music (6852198). 4.00-5.30em Film: Confessions of a Married Man (33198).
- NERMUM

 As Lundon except 12.30 pm Seven Days (7216242). 2.00
 Ridgenders (7068). 2.30 The Mendian Match (32363971)
 4.55 Antiques Trail (2732242). 5.25 Behmd the Palace Walts (5234971). 5.55 The Village (117432).11.45 The Para (290109). 12.10 mm Beyond Rescon (6281594). 12.40 mm Storn Story Carema (4119117). 1.15 mm Film: This Monsier Squad (4071594). 2.40 km The Album Stow (8526372). 3.40 am The Charl Show (9677469). 5.00-5.30 am De Medica Kitchen (35136).
- WESTCOUNTRY WESTGERMUN As Landon except: 12.30pm Westcountry Update (9565722). 2.00 Fair's Fair (1068). 2.30 Westcountry Westend Match (242). 3.00 South Crofty (5703). 3.30 Films Carry On Cou-boy (47807-4). 5.20 Carton (5860-52) 5.30 Hyghway to Heaven (452650). 11.45 Presoner: Cell Block H (524548).
- 54¢
 As C4 except: 8.50mm Running the Heats (40/38/19), 9.15
 Wise Up (29936-1), 9.45 Moviewatch (296/35), 10.15 Holyais (2906-6), 10.45 New Camesmester (299967), 11.15
 The Averges (255/80), 1.15 Rownd a Rownd (435-45267), 1.40 Rap (25-866/35), 2.05 Totyn Tymo (84-453-5), 2.05
 Egumor (378-4722), 4.05 My So railed Life (93/3593), 5.05
 Egumor (378-4722), 4.05 My So railed Life (93/3593), 5.05
 Egumor (378-4722), 4.05 My So railed Life (93/50-93), 7.05
 Egumor (378-472), 4.05 My So railed Life (93/50-93), 9.20
 Santh Ar Y Sul (1021-72), 9.35 San Steffan (4720-93), 9.25 Jane's Progress (35/58/38), 1.1.30-1.35am Film:
 After Dark My Sweet (18010-451).

Radio

Radio 1 697.6-99.8MHz FMD

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7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 2.00 Soul on Sunday 4.00 UK Top 40 7.00 Doing the Business. See Choice, right... 8.00 Radio 1 Rock Show 10.00 Andy Kershaw 12.00 Mark Ton-deral 4.00-5.30am Clive Warren

Radio 2 088-90.28Mz (NIII)

7.00am Don Maclean 9.05 Michael Aspel 10.30 Hayes on Sunday Aspet 10.30 Hayes on Sunday 12.00 Desmond Carrington 2.00 Benny Green 3.00 David Jacobs 4.00 Tea at the Berystede 4.30 Sing Something Simple 5.00 Charlle Chester 7.00 Valerie Sotti 8.30 Sun-day Half Hour 9.00 Alan Keith 10.00 The Radio 2 Arts Programme See Choice, above. 12.05 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00am Alex Lester

Radio 3 (90.2-92.4Mbz FM) 6.35am Open University. 7.00 Sacred and Profane. 8.55 Choice of Three. 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Moming. 1.00 News; Fairest Isle Songbook. 1.15 Fairest Isle.

1.45 BBC Symphony Orchestra. Jirl Belohlavek (Conductor). Mozart: Sinfonia Concertants in E flat.
Martinu: The Epic of Gilgarnesh.
3.30 Spirit of the Age. George Pratt
and Timothy Roberts explore the diversity of styles singers and arrangers have brought to Purcell songs down the ages, including versions by John Clarke, Hamilton Harty, Benjamin Britten and Peter Maxwell Davies.

4.30 Purcell Tercentenary Concart. Purcell: A Trumpet Tune; Hear my prayer, O Lord Thy word is a lantern unto my feet; Chacony in G minor; Beatl omnes qui timent Dominum; O God, Thou art my God; Te Deum and Jubilate. 5.45 Mask. A masque for Henry Purcell to a text by Ian Burton and sound composition by Ron Geesin. 6.30 Schumann, Schumann;

Legences, Op 24.
7.30 The Sunday Play: The Beatifi-cation of an Area Boy. A new play with music from Nigeria's Nobel Prize-winning author Wole Soyin-Liederkreis, Op 24. ka, in a world premiere production for the West Yorkshire Playhouse. 9.30 Choir Works, Worcester Festival Choral Society, BBC Philinamon-ic/Donald Hunt, Atkins: Hymm of Faith, Harrison: Worcestershire Suite. Hunt: A Song of Celebration. Eigar: The Music Makers. 11.15-12.3Gant Record Review.

To 1.45am.

Tonight's episode of the music-biz documentary Doing the Business (7pm R1) looks at why bands that have split - Madness (left), the Buzzcocks - bother to re-form. Meanwhile, the Radio 2 Arts Programme (10om R2) looks at early re-formers the Dorsey Brothers, apart for 20 years before com-mercial pressure healed the wound.

62.494.64% [4] 1986年2前 6.00am News. 6.10 Something Understood.

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News.
7.10 Sunday Papers.
7.15 The Living World. (2/6). 7.40 Sunday. 8.50 The Week's Good Cause. 8.55 Weather 9.00 (FM) News. 9.00 (LW) Test Match Special. 9.10 (FM) Sunday Papers. 9.15 (FM) Letter from America. 9.30 (FM) Morning Service.

Radio 4

10.15 (FM) The Archers. 11.15 (FM) Mediumway 11.45 (FM) Four Comers (3/6). 12.15 (FM) Desert Island Discs. 12.55 (FM) Weather 1.00 (FM) The World This Weekend. 1.55 Shipping .
2.00 (EW) Test Match Special.
2.00 (FM) Gardeners' Question Time.
2.30 (FM) The Classic Sterial: The

Barchester Chronicles. By Anthony Trollope. (1/2). 3.30 (FM) Pick of the Week. 4.15 Analysis. 5.00 News; Marx and Spurs. 5.50 Shipping. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Feedback. 5.30 In Business

7.00 Children's BBC Radio 4: Little Women. By Louisa May Alcott. (5/6). 7.30 Vanishing Haymeadows. 8.00 (FM) Natural History Programme 8.00 (LW) Suenos – World Spanish. 8.30 That's History. Roy Porter tells the story of Luxembourg. (5/6). 8.45 (LW) The French Experience. Examines the language of travel. 9.00 (FM) UK plc.(5/6).

9.15 Short Stories in Italian, Il Lungo Viaggio, by Leonardo Sciascia. 9.30 (LW) When in Italy. 9.30 (FM) Costing the Earth. 10.00 News. 10.15 Medicine Now. 10.45 Eureka. (2/6). 11.15 in Committee.

Choice

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Story: A Touch of Gloss. By Beryl Eligen Roberts. 1,2,48 Shipping

Return 3
Bett 908 bill 10 6.30 Brian Hayes at
Breakdast 9.05 Sunday with Mair 11.35
Special Assignment 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 The Big Byte 1.05 Hold the
Front Page 1.35 You Cannot Be Serious!
2.30 Gary Uneler's Sunday Sport 6.05
Jim and the Dor 7.00 News Extra 7.35
The Adult Test 8.05 (exal Leans 8.35 The Acid Test 8.05 Legal Leaps 8.35 Word Up! 9.05 Dallyn Worldwide 10.05 Unborn in the USA 10.35 Crime Desk 11.00 Night Edia 12.05 Nighteal 2.05 Up All Night 5.00 Morning Reports

Classic FM 0000 101 1981: Re 6.00am Sarah Lucas, 9.00 Classic Romance, 12.00 Calcority Choice. 1.00 Alan Mann, 3.00 Masterda Rossini: Overture: William Tell. 4.00 Robert Booth, 7.00 Book Browse. 8.00 Pening Cornext, Purcet: I was glad; Love's goddess sure was blind; Ode on Queen Many's Birthday; Corne ye sons of art, away; Funeral music for Queen Many. 10,00 Howard's Week, 12,00 Anche Leon, 4,00-6,00am Mank Griffiths.

(12)5, 1197-1250bb iiii 18529bb Fili 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 1.0.00 Graham Dene 2.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Howard Pearce 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

Virgin Radio

World Service 1.00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Animals of Power L.30 Anything Goes 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Composer of the Month 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Jazz for the Asking 4.00 Newsdesl 4.30 Europe Today 4.30 Off the Shelf: Middlemarch 1/24 4.45 Ani-mals of Power (Not 648) 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

Satellite

7.00am Hour of Power (82646). 8.00 Ghoul-Lashed (848567). 10.30 Shoot! (49616). 11.00 Postcards from the Hedge (59432). 1.00 Miss World (13838), 3.00 Star Trek (29141), 4.00 WWF (98906). 5.00 Great Escapes (3258), 5.30 Power Rangers (4426), 6.00 The Simpsons (7567) 7.00 The Simpsons (8819), 7.00 Beverly Hills 90210 (32884), 8.00 Star Trek

(14432). 9.00 Highlander (38068). 10.00 Renegate (31155). 11.00 LA Law (21345). 12.00 Entert Tonight (5597846). 12.50 Sibs (3698778). 1.20 Comic Strip Live (9030198). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mix (8927778). SZY MONIES

6.00am Showcase (42635). 8.00 Fate is the Hunter (1964) (11426). 10.00 Silver Bears (1978) (83548). 12.00 Legend of the White Horse (1985) (85267). 2.00 Moon Zero Two Garden (1993) (4797), 6.00 To Father (1993) (10616). 10.00 Hard Target (1993) (213906). 11.40 The Movie Show (460426). 12.10 Real Men (1987) (5989285). 1.40 The King's Whore (1990) (4395778). 3.10-6.00am Men Don't Tell

MOVIE CHANNEL 6.00am Tarzan and the Huntress (1947) (8882113). 7.15 Don Quixote (1987) (618155). 8.15 99 River Street (1953) (21118068). 10.00 9w and Amazons (1974) (74890). 12.00 The Gift of Love (1993) (85249), 2.00 Missing Parents (1993) (26277). 4.00 The Counterielt Contessa (1994) (8567). 5.00 The Making of Jurassic Park (1993) (73161), 7.00 Jurassic Park (1993) (45971). 9.00 Last Action Hero (1993) (65295258). 11.15 Cyborg 2 (1993) (282161). 12.55 The Visitors

(1993) (75834117).

4.00-6.00am Curse of the Crystal Eve (1993) (85778). SICY MOTHES GOLL) 12.00pm The Sea Hawk (1940) (76906). 2.00 Broken Arrow (1950) (401797). 3.45 (Remember Marria (1948) (27211513). 6.00 The Man Who

(1972) (9830681). 2.25 A Case

for Murder (1993) (291440).

Knew Too Much (1956). (15155). 8.00 Cocoon (1985) (10600), 10.00 Help! (1965), (414548), 11.50 Serplco (1973) (13553074), 2.00-4.00am Mean Machine (1975) (87372).

7.00am Lassie (3353884), 7.25 Going for Gold (3445819), 7.50 Spring and Autumn (3432074). 8.20 And Mother Makes Five (6344513), 8.50 When the Boat Comes in (8913797). 9.50 Pink Parither (358) 068), 10.05 Dr. ranner (3361068), 10,05 of Who (19479529), 12,00 The Dawson Watch (8200364), 12,30 It Airl't Half Hot, Murn (2031277), 1,00 Film: That Rivlera Touch (85959426). 2.50 The Bill (40037364). 5.15 Berg-erac (77863074). 6.20 Dad's

Army (8419635). 7.00 The Paul

Daniels Magic Show (4322155). 8.00 Howards' Way (4404703). 9.00 Minder (51247635). 10.05

Special Branch (53394364). 11.10 Mackenzie (2148258). 12.10 Public Eye (8344778). 1.10 in Concert (2112575). 2.05-3.00am Shopping at Night SXY SPORTS 7.00am Watersports (42600). 8.00 Cricket - Live (1256161). 4.00 Tennis (8155). 6.00 NFL -Live (829567). 9.00 Cricket Highlights (60635). 11.00 Surfing (26703). 11.30 Powerboat. World (41635). 12.00-3.00am

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Soccer Extra (1289513). 11.00 Goals on Sunday (3241819). 12.30 Football: Hearts v Hibernian (5704548) 3.00 Football: Queens Park Rangers v Coventry City (4179884). 5.00 Football Special (1535109), 7.00 The Big League (9239364), 9.00 Golf (9846161). 11.00 Footbell Special (5790093). 12.30-1.00am World of Speed and Beauty (8996010).

Live Skating (199838). 5.00 Live Skiling (27345). 6.30 Prime Time Boxing Special (43203). 7.30 Alpine Skilng (3345). 8.00 Live Alpine Skilng (6364). 8.30 Rally (2971). 9.00 Formula 1 (55703). 11.00 Boxing (76819). 12,00 Rally (51575).

Pastimes

Chess William Hartston

The curious thing about the Intel Grand Prix tournaments is that the strongest players keep and 14.h5 (14...Bxh5 15.Qh6 winning. When two strong grandmasters play a two-game match at 25 minutes each game, the speed of the encounter ought to guarantee a constant supply of upsets. Yet Kasparov, Anand, Kramnik and Ivanchuk keep coming out on top, with Kasparov more on top than the others.

Adams upset the usual pattern by winning the event. The 3 No3 d5 usual favourites were bemused 4 cxd5 Nxd5 by Kasparov's withdrawal at 5 e4 Nxc3 the start of the event, and they 6 bxe3 Bg7 all fell to unfancied runners. Today's game, from the second round in Paris, sees two of the heavyweights in

Only in the London leg of

this year's series did Michael

action. Kramnik, after losing the first game to Ivanchuk, had to win to stay in the competition. He succeeded with a 14 h5 Bxf3 brilliantly aggressive game.

442 Ø743 QJ 1095 **4**9532 East ♣J9 ♥AQ65 ΔI9 ♦KQ832 QA76 **+**Q108764 **+**KJ 7.30am Skating (77529). 9.30 Sking (25155). 10.00 Rally (68890). 11.00 Boxing (82426). 12.00 Formula 1 (54155). 2.00 South **◆**AKQ8763

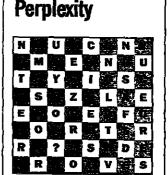
ΦA

Sacrificing a pawn with

leaves Black helpless) Kramnik built a powerful attack. Ivanchuk's 21...Nc4 was an ingenious way to use his offside knight, but when 26.Rd5! prevented his queen returning to the defence, it was

Black: Vassily Ivanchuk 1 Nf3 Nf6 16 hxgó fxgó 17 d6 b6 18 Qd5+ Kg7 19 Qx25 + Qf6 20 Qh2 h5 21 Rd1 Nc4 7 ర4 దో 22 Bxx4 Qc3+ 8 Rb1 0-0 23 Kfl Qxc4+ 24 Kg2 Rad8 9 Be2 Nc6 25 Qe5+ Kg8 10 d5 Bxc3+ 11 Bd2 Bxd2+ 26 Rd5 Rf7 12 Qxd2 Na5 27 Rh3 Rdd7

13 h4 Bg4



When I'm more than 64: This week's question is spelt out, in knight moves, starting at the H in the bottom left-hand corner and visiting every square once only. A copy of the new Larousse Desk Reference Encvclopedia awaits the first correct answer opened on 30 November, Entries to: Saturday Pastimes, The Independent, 1 Canada Sq, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL.

4 November answer: The Magic Flute. Winner: Evc-

Bridge Alan Hiron

Love all; dealer East North

♥K 1082

After bidding his hand intelligently, South reached a good A trick was needed from hearts finding someone with ace

was a gap in his card-play one from hand which lost to technique. Would you have done better?

28 Rg3 Rg7

29 Qe6+ 1-0

North to show a major, West was disappointed and lost three bid One No-trump. Happy not more tricks in the suit. to have to bid, North passed and, when this came round to play was fine, but the second South, he doubled again. West retreated to Two Clubs, and should have been the king, not after two passes. South jumped the eight. It does not matter if to Three Spades. North was not the suit breaks evenly, but the

contract. Unfortunately, there and South started with a low and another.

final contract.

West's nine. A club came back and, after ruffing, declarer led East opened One Diamond a second low heart. He hoped and South doubled. In an at- to find either a doubleton ace tempt to make it difficult for or the suit dividing 3-3, but he

What went wrong? The early heart that South led from hand tempted and this became the king gains whenever either defender has started with West led a low club and, after queen and another or jack winning, declarer drew trumps. and another - twice as likely as

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The big picture The Color Purple Sun 10pm BBC2

Steven Spielberg had to wait until Schindler's List to receive an accolade from the Academy, but many thought he had deserved Oscar recognition several years earlier for The Color Purple. Despite eight nominations, though, he left the Oscars ceremony empty-handed. On balance, the Academy for once was right. Although Spielberg's adaptation of Alice Walker's tough novel about black life at the turn of the century starring Whoopi Goldberg drips with good intentions, it is just trying too hard to be likeable.

Television preview

RECOMMENDED VIEWING THIS WEEKEND by Gerard Gilbert



Tx Sat 8.05pm BBC2 Priest Sat 9.05pm BBC2 **Police Action Live Sat 10pm ITV** Equinox Sun 7pm C4 The Art Marathon Sun 7.35pm BBC2

oing anything this evening between ten and midnight? Play your cards wrong and you could end up on Police Action Live (Sat ITV), two hours of "live reports from around the country following policemen and women as they patrol on foot, by car Barlow in Coronation Street. The producers are taking no risks, timing their pro-

gramme to coincide with pub chucking-out - and drink chucking-up - time. All they needed to have done was to team up with the BBC's Hospital Watch for a truly unique television event.

Such realism is supposed to be Cracker-writer (as in trade - and his teachers-in-distress series Hearts and Minds, and now Priest (Sat BBC2), proves that McGovern certainly knows how to spot authentic issues and situations.

Priest, which has already had a cinema run, is about a newly-appointed Catholic priest (Linus Roache) to an inner-city Liverpool parish. He's both a prig and a closet gay, and in one deliriously literal scene he prepares to go cruising by reaching into his

closet and pulling out a shiny black leather bomber is how Ricky Iay manages to extract the right play-jacket. Roache was last seen playing a blacking card from a shuffled deck. Jay, according to Tx market spiv with the lady-killer twinkle in Scaforth. As a sanctimonious priest, you suddenly realise that this is, yea, verily the son of the man who plays Ken

If modern priests are little more than social workers, then, as this week's Equinox (Sun C4) makes: plain, modern physicists are verging on the priestly. As quantum physicists get closer and closer to the origins of the universe, more and more of them are wondering exactly what happened before the Big Bang. he is always now known) Jimmy McGovern's stock As one quark-observer puts it - the laws of physics randomly creating life on Earth are about as likely as a whirlwind crossing a scrapyard and assembling a jumbo jet. Before you fall on your knees, however, you should know that the tone of Peter Webber's film is sceptical. As one physicist says of a colleague who claims to have found a scientific basis for life after death: "Just because he's got a PhD he thinks he can say anything."

(Sat BBC2), is the magician's magician. He works out of Hollywood and counts among his admirers Steve Martin and David Mamet. In fact, you might recognise Jay (he looks a lot like Alexander Solzhenitsyn's younger, plumper, Brooklyn-born brother) from Mamet's film about commen. House of Games.

Tx is supposed to be a series about contemporary art. Are card tricks an art? A good question for the six "ordinary" (they don't visit art galleries) Ulster-men and women who have been selected to take part in The Art Marathon (Sun BBC2), an intriguing experiment in which they trawl the British Isles coming face to face with contemporary art. The subjects' homes are decorated with pastoral scenes, photographs of tigers ("lovely") or limited edition prints of sailing ships ("that should appreciate in years to come"). Their first encounters with High Art are a sculpture called "the toothed vagina", a bible with a one-inch hole drilled in it, and Damien Hirst's sheep Just as mysterious as the workings of the universe in a tank. Lambs to the slaughter? Maybe.



The big match England vs South Africa Sat 2.05pm BBC1

After the autumn he's had, Will Carling (above) must be mightily relieved to be appearing again on the back rather than the front pages of the popular press.

Against South Africa this afternoon, he leads out a team with a completely new spine, following the departure of Brian Moore, Dean Richards and Rob Andrew. The challenge for England will be to match deeds to their stirring words about dynamic rugby. That is easier said than done against world champions South.
Africa, who have the most impregnable defence this side of Fort Knox.

Saturday Television and Radio

BBC₁

7.25 News; Weather (7428963). 7.30 Children's BBC: Superted (3987166), 7.40 Willy Fog (1012296), 8.05 The Addams Family

8.30 The New Adventures of Superman. A criminal is dating Lois Lane's sister (R) (S) (3333586). *
9.15 Live and Kicking. Casualty actor Clive Mantle and popsters Boyzone want a word with your kids (S) 12.12 Weather (9550654).

12.15 Grandstand. Steve Rider hosts from Twickenham. 12.20 Football Focus. 12.25 and 1.15 Racing: From Aintree, with races at 12.30, 1.00 and 1.35pm; and from Ascot, featuring races at 12.45, 1.20 and 1.55pm, 1.10 News, 2.05 Rugby Union: Live coverage of England vs South Africa (kick-off 2,30pm). Plus highlights of Scotland vs Western Samoa, and Ireland vs Fiji. 4.45 Final Score (37012166).

5.20 News; Weather (5971586). * 5.30 Local News, Weather (585963). 5.35 Dad's Army. Mainwaring is in court after a light is left burning in the church hall (R) (468654). 6.05 Jim Davidson's Generation Game. Zsa Zsa Gabor, Jim Bowen and Willy Thome are the guests (S)

(364296). 7.00 Noel's House Party. Gary Rhodes earns a Gotcha (S) (835654). 7.50 The National Lottery Live. A specially extended edition – which might be pushing it – to mark the first anniversary of the National Lottery (S)

(865166). 8.15 Casualty. A jockey has an accident (\$) (703005). 9.05 News and Sport; Weather (Followed by National

Lottery Update) (319876). * 9.25 TIM Stalking Laura (Michael Switzer 1993 US). You'd think that young women being stalked by lone males was a national obsession instead of an over-used plot device for the TV-movie industry. This one stars Brooke Shields in a belated attempt at serious acting, and Richard "John Boy" Thomas

belatedly chucking away his nice guy Waltons image (\$) (1749437). * 10.55 Match of the Day. Highlights of two big derby games: Liverpool vs Everton, and Tottenham Hotspur vs Arsenal (S) (3510499).

12.00 The Stand Up Show (S) (44819). 12.30 ELM Cannon for Cordoba (Paul Wendkos 1970 US). Taco-western set south of the border around about 1912, where army captain George Peppard has to retrieve cannons stolen by outlaw Raf /allone during the Mexican revolution. You know the score: unshaven men in big hats spitting and grinning a lot (576567).

2.10 Weather (7260548). To 2.15am. REGIONS. Wales: 4.55pm Wales on Saturday. 5.30 Wales on Saturday. 5.55 Cartoon. NJ: 2.05pm Rugby Union, 5.00 Northern Ireland Results. 5.30 Inside Ulster News. 2.10 Inside Ulster

BBC2

8.20 Open University: Developing World (1009302). 8.45 Energy at the Crossroads (4049470). * 9.10 Putting Training to Work (9154012). 9.35 Becoming a Student (7249741). *

10.00 Chanakya. Hindu saga (S) (2518505). 10.40 Video Byte. Asian pop (\$) (1471302). 10.50 Network East. Naseeruddin Shah and Shyam Benegal guest (\$) (1111128). 11.20 Bollywood or Bust! (\$) (2201963).

11.50 Film 95 with Barry Norman (1165654). * 12.20 Close Up. Volker Schlondorff chaoses Billy Wilder's The Apartment, while Mary Whitehouse opts for Harold Lloyd in Safety Last (7845944). 12.35 Wildlife on Two. Midnight and midday at the casis

(R) (9581760). * 1.05 ELMI Command Decision (Sam Wood 1948 US). Clark Gable no doubt brought his own experience as a wartime fighter bomber pilot to bear on his suprisingly heavyweight portrayal as a US Air Force Commander tom apart by the fact that he must send his men on what amounts to a suicide mission over Germany (38737741).

2.50 FIEM Soldier of Fortune (Edward Drnytryk 1955

US). Clark Gable in his more habitual lighter vein in this breezy CinemaScope melodrama costaming Susan Hayward as an American woman in Hong Kong, whither she has gone to search for

her missing photographer husband (21777692).
4.25 Best of Esther. Men with dangerous jobs, including racing driver Derek Warwick and jockey Declan Murphy (R) (S) (6636296). 4.55 The Oprah Winfrey Show. People who have either

been separated at birth, given up for adoption or like Oprah and her audience - lost touch with one another (R) (S) (6944692). *

5.35 TOTP2. Pop then and now (\$) (954708). 6.20 One Man and His Dog (\$) (632234). * 7.05 News and Sport; Weather (223031). *
7.20 Assignment. How Asia seems to have succeeded

where the West has failed - in revolutionising their economies without losing social cohesion (930673)

8.05 Tx. Profile of influential Hollywood magician Ricky Jay. See Preview (243073). * 8.55 Close Up. Mike Leigh on François Truffaut's Jules et Jim (S) (581012). 9.05 Screen Two: Priest. See Preview (S)

(49218741). 10.50 Have I Got News for You. From last night, with guests Alan Coren and Terry Christian (S) (391147).

11.20 Later with Jools Holtand (S) (180079). 12.20 Shy People (Andrei Konchalovsky 1988 US). New York journalist Jill Clayburgh takes her daughter Martha Plimpton down the bayou to meet the Louisiana branch of the family - and gets caught up in increasingly silly Deliverence-style shenanigans (S) (242838). * To 2.20am.

REGIONS.NI: 5.35pm Rugby Union.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV. 6.00 News; Weather. 6.10 Re:Win.d. 6.40 Eat Your Words. 7.10 Barney and Friends. 7.45-8.55 Saturday Disney. Chelsea's Ruud Gullitt is a guest. 8.55 Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (9811789).

9.25 Scratchy & Co. Les Ferdinand's wardrobe and Neighbour Dan Falzon in the flesh (S) (75025234).

11.30 The Chart Show. David Bowie is in the video vault (R) (S) (43654).

12.30 Speakeasy. Sonya from Echobelly on her mixed Indian/Erglish upbringing (S) (27586).
1.00 News, Weather (36750514). * 1.05 Local News, Weather (37100055). *

1.10 Champions League Special (23745465). 1.40 Movies, Games and Videos (4588895). 2.15 Cartoon Time (76909296). 2.20 The A-Team The boys find themselves in the Middle East (R) (8844215). 3.15 Airwolf (R) (152505).

4.15 Speakeasy Does the Business. More dream jobs considered. This week, two teenagers hit the catwalk (S) (151741). 4.45 News; Sport; Weather (7791031). 5.05 London Tonight and Sport (3221673). *

5.20 New Baywatch. Logan takes Cody's car without permission and CJ befriends a lost sea Jion (S) (4977079). * 6.15 Gladiators (S) (131147). * 7.15 Blind Date. Michael and Juanita discuss their

Florida jaunt (Including Lottery Result) (S) (120031). * 8.15 Raise the Roof. A cottage in Comwall to the winner (S) (436944). *

8.45 News; National Lottery Update; Weather

9.00 40 Years of ITV Laughter. Denis Norden is the avuncular link man for clips of John Cleese, Benny Hill, Spike Milligan, Tommy Cooper, Julian Clary and (going back a bit here) Jimmy James (S) (2437). *

10.00 Police Action Live. Cameras follow four police forces across Britain as the pubs empty across the land. See Preview (4383).

12.00 Big Fight Special. Paul Weir of Scotland takes on South Africa's "Baby" Jake Matlala for the WBO

light-flyweight crown (3636890). 12.45 American Gladiators. Like the British Gladiators,

but with bigger teeth (S) (3703513). 1.40 The Big E (S) (7982258). 2.30 BPM (S) (8643093). tish Matarsport (37776635)

3.50 TIM The Abominable Dr Phibes (Robert Fuest 1971 UK). Stylish art deco sets, a tongue-incheek script and Vincent Price firing on all cylinders make this Hammer outing worth catching. He plays a madman bent on revenge for the death of his wife, supported by Joseph Cotton and Terry-Thomas 5.30 News (30616). To 6.00am.

Channel 4

6.05 Sesame Street (R) (7787012). * 7.05 Ovide (R) (7375963). 7.15 Sonic the Hedgehog (R) (2862514). 7.40 First Edition (7514234).

8.00 Trans World Sport (70499). 9.00 The Morning Line. The past week, plus a preview of today's racing card (S) (44437). 10.00 Blitz! American football action with the NFL (S) (73302).

11.00 Gazzetta Footbali Italia (93166). 12.00 Sign On. The problems faced by deaf prisoners (S) (26532).

12.30 The Great Maratha (9596692). 12.55 The Late Late Show. Come in Dublin (S)

(8915418). * 1.55 Dive Bomber (Michael Curtiz 1941 US). World War Two thriller with Errol Flynn as a US Navy flight surgeon working to find a way to stop pilots blacking out during power dives

(41164944). * 4.25 Four Fingers and a Thumb. John Wilson signs his short story, Dalls' Ears (2856876). 4.30 The Snow Session. London's first ever snow mountain was built in Covent Garden at the end of

last month for the Snowboard Cup. Presented by Normski, The Snow Session includes music from up-and-coming band Honky (S) (6936673). 5.05 Brookside Omnibus (R) (S) (8353128). * 6.30 Right to Reply. With both BBC and ITV having recently appointed new heads of cornedy, a review

of the world of sitcoms (S) (673). *
7.00 A Week in Politics (4895). 8.00 21st Century Jet. The Boeing 777 enters the test stage (S) (2465). *

9.00 The Camomile Lawn, 4/5. Rerun Mary Wesley saga (R) (S) (4702215). *

10.05 Rory Bremner - Who Else? (S) (234079). 10.45 Street-Porter's Men. Paul O'Grady, the man behind Lily Savage, and Neil Bartlett, artistic director of the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith (S)

11.15 Magic (Richard Attenborough 1978 US). A curious project for Sir Dickie - being William Goldman's adaptation of his own hackneyed novel about a ventriloquist (Anthony Hopkins at his most annoyingly ponderous) being "taken over" by his dummy. Burgess Meredith is good, however, as Hopkins's agent (314963). *

1.15 Blood on Satan's Claw (Piers Haggard 1970 UK). Post-Witchfinder General romp IWN 1/IN-CENTURY England Way, With Patrick Wymark as a judge trying to stamp out the

occult among local children (885819). 3.00 Filed Dr Blood's Coffin (Sidney J Furie 1960 UK). Fairly explicit and gory (for its day) low-budget shocker in which doctor Kieron Moore experimenting in transplant surgery in a Cornish village - discovers a potion for bringing the dead back to life (235155). To 4.40am.

ITV/Regions

ANGLIA
As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (27586I. 1.05 Anglia News and Weather (37100055). 1.40 The Big Byte (25301944). 2.10 Film: Young Again (758673). 3.45 Airwold (151876I. 5.05 Anglia News, Sport and Weather (3221673I. 3.25am Film: Block Busters (8571074). 4.35am America's Top Ten (86076600). 5.00-5.30am Movies, Games and Videos (55180).

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TYPE TEES/YORKSHIRE

THE TEXYONISHING. As Landon except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (27586). 1.05 Regional News, Weather (37100055). 1.40 Film: A New Kind of Love (17761296). 3.45 Airvolf (151876). 5.05 Regional News (17761296). (17/01/290). 3.45 AIRWOIT (151876). 5.05 Regional News, Weather (5994437). 5.10 Tyne: Full Time (8738147). Yorks: Scoreline (8738147). 12.45am Knight Rider (559890). 2.25am News Headlines; 6PM (4721838). 3.25am The Little Picture Show (6901890). 4.20am Cus the Music (3249242). 5.15-5.30am Profile (1870567).

As London except: 12.30pm Heartland (27586). 1.05 Central News and Weather (37100055). 1.40 Carbon Time (15654692). 1.45 Movies, Games and Videos (197418). 2.15 WCW Worldwide Wrestling (3394925), 3.00 Airwolf (7781760), 3.55 Thunder in Paradise (7802383), 5.05 Central News and Weather (5994437), 5.10 Central Match - Goals Extra (8738147). 3.50am Jobfinder (2917155). 5.20-5.30am Asian Eye (4835971).

As London except: 12,30pm West: No Naked Flames (27586). Wales: The Electric Chair (27586). 1.05 Regional News (37100055). 1.45 Movies, Garnes regional News (37/10/05), 1.43 micros, values and Videos (197418), 2.15 The Munsters Today (70998708), 2.40 Cartoon Time (6008383), 2.45 Thunder in Paradise (155692), 3.45 Airwolf (151876), 5.05 Regional News (8731234), 5.15-5.20pm Cartoon Time (5985789).

As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (27586). 1.05 News (37100055). 1.40 Go Fishing (25301944). 2.10 The Big Byte (70999437). 2.35 Warner Cartoon (2353760). 2.55 Time Trax (8880296). 3.45 Knight Rider (151876). 5.05 News (8731234). 5.15 Warner Cartoon (5985789). 3.25am Film: Block Busters (8671074). 4.35am America's Top Ten (86076600). 5.00-5.30am Freescreen (55180).

As London except: 12.30pm Movies, Games and Videos (27586). 1.05 News (37100055). 1.40 Film: That Dam Cati (32580079). 3.50 Knight Rider (5245760). 5.05-5.20pm News (3221673).

As C4 except: 7.10am Ovide (7372876). 7.20 Sonic the Hedgehog (5012037), 7.45 First Edition (3959383), 11.00 The Persuaders! (93166), 12.30pm Exosquad (9596692), 4.30 The Snow Season (6936673), 6.30 Hollyoaks (673), 7.00 News (226128), 7.15 Noson Lawen (128673), 8.15 Pengelli (43458c). 8.45 Hel Straeon (433857), 9.15 Mellith Y Mamsau (706470). 10.45-11.15pm Street Porter's Men (446321).

Radio

Radio 1

(97.6-99 **8M**4z FM) 7.00am Kevin Greening 10.00 Dave Pearce 12.30 Danny Baker 2.30 The Saturday Social with Jo Whiley 4.30 In Concert 5.00 John Peel 7.00 Danny Rampling 9.00 Radio 1 Rap Show 12.00 Essential Mix 2.00 Chill Out Zone 4.00-7.00am Lynn Parsons

Radio 2 (88-99.2MH; FM)

6.00am Mo Dutta 8.05 Brian Matthew 10.00 Judi Spiers 12.00 Hayes on Saturday 1.30 The News Huddlines 2.00 Martin Kelner 3.30 How Does Your Garden Grow? 4.00 Nick Barraclough 5.00 Gloria Upstaged! 6.00 Extremities 7.00 Cornedy Classics 7.30 Schools Prom 9.30 David Jacobs 10.00 Sheridan Morley 12.05 Charles Nove 4.00-7.00am Mo Dutta

1902-92,4% FM) 7.00am Record Review

9.00 Building a Library 10.15 Record Release. 11.15 Reissues. Robert Cowan reviews the two-for-the-price-of-one series from EMI, Forte, including Dvorak conducted to Giulini, Berlioz conducted by Andre Clutyens and Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos's recording of Mendelssohn's Elijah. 11.35 Record Review. Prokohev:

Cinderella Act III.
12.00 Private Passions, Michael Berkeley is joined by Dr Jonathan Miller. 1.00 News: The Indian Spice Trail. val ntuals carned out by both

Hindus and Muslims. (8/8). 1,25 Vintage Years. Annette Morreau recalls the work of the American pranist William Kapell, (3/3). 3.25 Young Artists' Forum. Krzysztof Chorzelski (violin) and Ekaterina Apekisheva (piand) perform works by Sav manowski and Wieniawski; kathryn Turpin (mezzo) and Richard Hetherington (piano)

play songs by Debussy and Richard Strauss; and Anthony Zerpa-Falcon (plano) plays music by Liszt. During the inter-val, Andrew Sparling reports on the importance of foreign mu-sic students in British colleges. 5.00 Jazz Record Requests. 5.45 Music Matters, Ivan Hewett hears steel pans at the Hudbook on Bartok and his world;

Choice

Peak: world's cleverest man Jonathan Miller (left) appears in today's Private Passions (12noon R3) to choose his favourite music and reflect on life for the appallingly successful. Trough: in 17th-century England.

and reports on the merging of the National Sound Archive and the British Library. 6.25 Tosca, Puccini's famous opera, live from La Bastille, Paris. Galina Gorchakova (soprano), Placido Domingo (tenor), Chorus and Orchestra of the Opera National, Paris/Seiji Ozawa. Act 1. (7.20-7.40 The Tosca File. Graham Fawcatt considers the lives of Victorien Sardou, on whose play the opera was based, and the librettists, Illica and Giacosa. Act 2. (8.25-8.45 Realistically Speaking, Michael Oliver looks at those

composers conveniently la-belled verismo.) Act 3.

9.20 Two Handfuls Long Sir. Sexy songs of the 17th Century per-formed by Lucie Skeaping and Doug Wootton of the City Wartes at Ye Olde Mitre in London. Plus a discussion on attitudes

to sex then and now. 9.50-1.00am London Jazz Festi-val. Chris Parker introduces a recent concert recording by a key innovator in modern jazz George Russell, who brought his Living Time Orchestra to the Queen Elizabeth Hall, Lon-don. During the interval Ian Carr profiles Russell.

Radio 4 (92.4-94 5Mt; FM, 1986t; UV) 6.00am News Briefing, 6.10 Farming Today, 6.50 Prayer for the Day. 6.55 Weather. 7.00 Today.

9.00 (LW) Test Match Special Coverage of the First Test in Pretoria between South Africa and England. 9.00 (FM) News. 9.05 (FM) Sport on 4. 9.30 (FM) Breakaway. 10.00 (FM) News; Loose Ends. 11.00 (FM) News; the Week in

intellectuals playing at smut in Two Handfuls Long Sir (9.20pm R3), an examination of the bawdy song

11.30 (FM) Europhile. 12.00 (FM) Money Box 12.25 (FM) I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue. 12.55 (FM) Weather. 1.00 (FM) News. 1.10 (FM) Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby's guests are Tony Baldry MP, Tony Banks MP, Polly Toynbee, Associate Editor of the Independent, and Instonan Andrew Roberts.

1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 (LW) Test Match Special. 2.00 (FM) News; Any Answers? 2.30 (FM) Saturday Playhouse: The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne. Patrick Carroll drama tises the acclaimed novel by Brian Moore which chronicles a Belfast spinster's last hope of real love. With Stella McCusker

and James Ellis. 4.00 News; That's History. (5/6). 4.30 Science Now. 5.00 File on 4. 5.40 Personal Obse 40 Personal Obsessions. Agnes MacLennan from the Outer Hebrides tells Kate Mackenzie about her collection of a thou

about her collection of a drou-sand pens. (5/6). 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather. 6.00 Sir O'Clock News. 6.25 West, Ending. 6.50 Offspring. 7.20 Kaleidoscope Feature. Brian Sibley presents a special pro-gramme on the comic fantasy writer Terry Pratchett.
7.50 Saturday Night Theatre:
When We Are Married. JB
Pnestley's classic comedy about

three couples who receive a rude shock in the midst of their joint siver wedding celebratio With Alun Armstrong, Gwen Taylor, Alan Bennett, Benda Blethyn and Nicola Pagett. 9.20 Music in Mind. 9.50 Ten to Ten. 10.15 Word of Mouth, (1/6). 10.45 Eight of the Best, Biology teacher Elizabeth Pollack and

her GCSE class from Whitley Bay High School examine how

the human eye works.

11.00 Comparing Notes with
Richard Baker, Richard Baker
talks to Philip McCann and Richard Evans about the current state of brass bands. 11.30 The Chronicles of Clovis.
Stories by the Edwardian writer
Saki, adapted by Justin Greene.
12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Story: The Actor

by Stan Barstow. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00am As World Service.

Radio 5

(693, 909kb) 1888 1033, Junes WH 6.05 Brian Hayes at Breakfast 9.05 Weekend with Kershaw and Whittaker 11.05 Top Gear 11.35 Crime Desk 12.00 Midday Edition 12.15 Sportscall 1.05 Sport on Five 6.06 Six-O-Six 7.35 Straight Up 8.05 Clear the Air 8.35 Dailyn on Saturday 10.05 The Treat ment 11.00 Night Extra 12.05 After Hours 2.00 Up All Night 5.00-6.05am Morning Reports

Classic FM

(100.0-101 9Mits Fit)
6.00am Sarah Lucas 9.00 Countdown 12.00 Gardening Forum
1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 The Saturday Alternative 6.00 Classic
America 7.00 World Opera Season, Rossini: The Barber of
Seville. The 1962 Glyndebourne
recording with Victoria de los Aprecording with Victoria de los An-geles, Glyndebourne Festival Cho-rus, Royal Philharmonuc Orchestra/Vittorio Gui. 10.00 Classic Quiz 12.00 Andre Leon 4.00 Classic Countdown 5.00

6.00am Michael Fanstone Vîrgin Radio U215, 1197-1250Mb MW 105.8Mb 700 6.00am Janey Lee Grace 8.00 Russ and Jono 10.00 Richard

Skinner 2.00 Mark Forrest 6.00 Mitch Johnson 10.00 Robin Banks 2.00-6.00am Howard Pearce World Service (158kHz LW) 1.00am World News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 Soundbyte 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent 1.50 Write On 2.00 Newsday 2.30 The Ed Stewart Show 3.00 World News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 Fourth Estate 3.45 Science View 3.50 Wave-guide 4.00 Newsdark 4.30 Shows

guide 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Short Story 4.45 The Multitrack Ses-

sions 5.00 Newsday 5.30 (MW)

Weekend 5.30 In Praise of God

Satellite

7.00am Postcards from the Hedge (14673), 9.00 Ghoul-Lashed (192876), 11.30 Shoot! (88147), 12.00 WWF (55383), 1.00 The Hit Mix (64031). 2.00 Wonder Woman (97418). 3.00 Growing Pains (5555). 3.30 Family Ties (4447). 4.00 Kung Fu, the Legend Continues (61470). 5.00 The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles (1857). 6.00 WWF (84895). 7.00 Robotop (18876), 8.00 VR.5 (94296), 9.00 Cops I (67654), 9.30 The Serial Killers (56012), 10.00 Miss World '95 (81234), 12.00 The Movie Show (73345), 12,30 WKRP in Cricinatti (54722), 1.00 Saturday

Night Live (18180). 2.00-6.00am Hit Mir Long Play (8023906). 6.00am Showcase (46079), 8.00 One of Our Spies Is Missing (1965) (71470), 10.00 Toys (1992) (70692), 12.00 A Boy Named Charlie Brown (1969) (94321), 2.00 No Child of Mine (1993) (94429), 4.00 A Promise to Keep (1990) (6789), 6.00 Jane's House (1993) (11963), 8.00

Toys (1992) Wacky adventure starring Robin Williams and Michael Gambon (23708). 10.00 No Escape (1993) Futuristic adventure starring Ray Liotta (76302). 12.00 Prelude to Love (92277). 1.30 Cadillac Girls (1993) (572093). 3.10-6.00am Map of the Human Heart (1993) (75930345). MOYTE CHANNEL 6.00am Tarzan and the Leopard Woman (1946) (6956091), 7.15 Robinson Crusoe (1972) (332789). 8.15 Mrs Lambert Remembers Love (1991) (21214296), 10.00 The Three Musketeers (1993) (78234). 12.00 Houdini (1953) (92963).

2.00 Jericho Fever (1993) (99741). 4.00 David's Mother (1994) (7031). 6.00 A Young Connecticut Yankee in King Anhur's Court (1994) A light-hearted version of the Mark Twain stohearted version of the Mark Twain sto-ry about a modern-day American ransported back in time to the days of King Arthur (19505), 8.00 The Three Musketeers (1993) Swashbuck-ling adventure starring Chris O'Donnell and Charlie Sheen (14050), 10.00 Short Cuts (1993) Drama starring Andre MacCowell and Tim Robbins. Robert Altman's film follows a couple of dozen LA suburnariors as they conof dozen LA suburbanites as they con-bend with the regours of everyday life (22589050). 1.15 Solar Chsis (1992) (446987). 3.10-6.00am My Breast (1994) (75938987).

SKY MOVIES COLD 4.00cm The Bravados (1958) (8321). 6.00 PT 109 (1963) Naval drama based on the adventures of John F Kennedy when he was a mo-

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tor torpedo boat lieutenant during the Pacific campaign of the Second World War. Staming Clift Robertson (53447168). 8.20 Haunted Honeymoon (1986) Horror-spoof starring Gene Wilder and Gilda Radner (66709654). 10.00 The Making of a Hard Day's Night. Documentary about the making of the Beatles' first movie (3961470). 11.20 Cobra (1986) Action adventure starring Sylvester Stallione (822) 281, 12.50-3.30am Kagemusha (1980) (37485513),

tox gold 7.00am Lassie (5689654). 7.30 Going for Gold (5608789). 8.00 War-ship (2359811). 9.00 Secret Army (6220654), 10.00 Neighbours (2040925), 12.00 Film: The Wind Cannot Read (4083708), 2,00 Pink Panther (16692050), 2,15 East-Enders (24280296), 5,00 Doctor at the Top (4613673), 5,40 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin (4381505). 6.15 French Fields (48-10895). 6.45 it Ain't Half Hot, Murn (48-49166). 7.15 Last Song (48-46079). 7.45 Bread (1537031). 8.20 The Bill (1058012), 9.10 Van der Valk

(1038012). 9.10 van der valk (15740505). 10.35 The Young Ones (8837418). 11.20 Film: Light Sleep-er (4530321). 1.10 James Brown – The Lost James Brown Tapes (79572834). 2.30-7.00am Shopping at Night (2234364). SAT SPORTS 7.00am Finish Line (69147), 7.30 Racing News (48654), 8.00 Cricket – Live (919-1532), 3.30 Sports Saturday, Cottol Update (27925). 5.30 Sports Saturday. Football Update (27925). 5.30 World Sports Centra (2857). 6.30 Opposite Lock (73499). 8.00 Cricket (57238465). 9.55 Sports Centre (434079). 10.00 Termis (25692). 12.00-3.00am Rugby Linin (4863670). Union (4863600).

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Soccer AM (1385741), 11.00 WWF (9247383), 12.00 Tennis – Live (2883876), 5.00 Angling Adventures (6239741), 5.30 World Adventures (62.39741): 3.50 World Soccer Magazine (682.3166): 6.00 Rugby Union (61.55.296): 9.00 Golf USA (9886789): 11.00 Finish Line (2590321): 11.30-1.00am Opposite

EUROSPORT
7.30am Saiting (44692), 8.30 Starn
(52383). 9.00 Football (783302),
12.00 Snowboarding (84470). 1.00
Alpine Sking (13578). 2.00 Figure Skating (44215). 4.00 Dancing (62316),
5.00 Live Alpine Sking (61789), 6.30
Boxing (89857). 7.30 Alpine Sking
(7789). 8.00 Live Alpine Sking (9418).
8.30 Figure Skating (48690), 11.00
Aerobics (63963). 12.00-1.00am Motorsports Report (20432). torsports Report (20432).



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